

Unemployment reaches postwar record of 1,393,000

number of adult unemployed to a postwar record in the last 10 years, taking into account seasonal variations, and is set to rise still further as the economy slides deeper into recession. Many economists believe the total could rise above two million next year as workers are laid off because of slackening demand for goods.

Fears of 2m total next year

Mr. Atkinson, who has been in the post for a few days, is taking account of the factors, the underlying adult unemployment in the last 10 years, taking into account seasonal variations, and is set to rise still further as the economy slides deeper into recession. Many economists believe the total could rise above two million next year as workers are laid off because of slackening demand for goods.

Duke joins Olympic protest on boycotts

Lausanne, April 22—Western governments were criticised by international Olympic sports federations today for putting pressure on athletes to boycott the Moscow games.



Lord Carrington (left) listening to M. Jean François-Poncet, the French Foreign Minister, at yesterday's meeting. With them are Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German minister (right) and Herr Klaus von Dohnanyi, his Minister of State.

EEC set May 17 deadline for Iran sanctions

From Michael Hurnby, Luxembourg, April 22. EEC governments agreed here today to impose full-scale trade and economic sanctions on Iran if "decisive progress" has not been made by May 17 towards the release of the American diplomats held hostage in Tehran.

Britons urged to leave as ambassador is recalled

From Tony Allaway, Tehran, April 22. Sir John Graham, the British Ambassador in Tehran, left Iran for the second time in just over a week today, after being recalled by the Government.

Homes building 'worst since 1920s' warning

Homes were likely to be built in 1980 at a rate since the 1920s, Trench, chairman of the House Building Federation, said. Sir Peter gave a warning that unless there was marked improvement, the rate of homes started but not completed would be about 115,000.

Pope to meet Archbishop in Africa

Pope John Paul II and the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev. Robert Runcie, are to meet in Accra, Ghana, on May 9 for a meeting, private conversation and joint press conference.

Mr Prior stands firm against Tory revolt

By Michael Hatfield, Political Reporter. The Government was dealt its biggest defeat yet by Tory rebels last night when 45 of them voted for an amendment to incorporate a secret trade union ballot clause into the employment Bill.

Yugoslavs await death of President Tito

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade, April 22. The two-month battle to save President Tito's life was drawn to a close tonight with the announcement that his condition had entered a critical stage.

Strike stops BL production

A strike by 50 BL workers at Longbridge in protest at the loss of their jobs has stopped production of the Mini and Allegro. More than 5,000 workers have been laid off.

en close station

involving 27 men down the unfinished water station on the Isle in Kent. The Central Planning Board has a decision to make to close the station and leave the station closed, although the first of generating equipment is operating, will supply the national grid.

Make May 14 start of Tory decline, Mr McGahey says

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Perth. Scottish trade unionists were urged yesterday to make the TUC's day of action on May 14 should be a day of implementation for the unions' political action.

Ulster devolution in one move is now the aim

From Christopher Thomas, Belfast. Senior Cabinet ministers will soon discuss detailed draft proposals for extensive power devolution in Northern Ireland.

executed beria

Ministers and senior officials of the former Soviet Union were executed by firing squads in a large crowd, including the former's elder brother and foreign minister.

ing dispute out threat

in the provincial dispute have warned the National Graphical Association they will institute a lockout next Monday unless the union has agreed to ballot its members to accept the industrial action.

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Police public

HOME NEWS

Warning given that fewer homes are likely to be built in 1980 than any year since 1920s

John Huxley

Over homes were likely to be built in Britain this year in any year since the 1920s, Sir Peter Trench, chairman of the National Housing Council, said yesterday.

Peter gave a warning that there was a marked increase in the number of completions in the private sector, but that the public sector was unlikely to exceed 100,000. Completions would be about 115,000, he said.

He was speaking at a meeting of the National Housing Council, which is the joint body of the Government and the private sector.

He said that the housing industry remained in good shape. Only about 20,000 homes were standing unsold, against 50,000 in 1974, a peak year for the industry.

He was speaking ways to "ride the storm without sending out flames for the Government lifeboat". He would write to the chairman of 100 of the largest building societies, asking them to adopt a house purchase scheme for employees.

The companies would be asked to provide temporary financial assistance to employees until mortgage interest rates fell. Sir Peter envisaged that aid should be given to first-time buyers or those who because of

the steep rise in rates were paying more than 20 per cent of their income in mortgage repayments.

Mr Ronald King, president of the House Builders Federation, said that the price and availability of mortgages remained among the main constraints on housebuilding activity. Another restraint was the lack of availability of suitable building land, which was expected to inhibit production seriously when activity picked up.

Representatives of 50 of Britain's top housebuilding companies, which account for about half the output, recently met to discuss housing demand in the 1980s. Each reported a cut in activity this year and a lack of confidence that demand would improve in the near future.

Mr King said that at a meeting with Mr Heseltine, builders told him that they wanted to build more homes, but conditions did not give them confidence that there was sufficient demand to justify it.

Asian replacement on race relations body

Mr Evans

Affairs Correspondent

Shirella Fletcher, a member of the executive of the Asian Conservative Union, and who is prominent in community work in the area, is among the first replacements on the Asian for Racial Equality Council.

Five members who were not re-elected.

Pranell Sheeh, one of the members who was not re-elected, said it was obvious that the council would not like in commission black representatives who so openly condemn the policies of the Government.

Mr Timothy Reason, a member of the Home Office, said that the suggestion that the council had to be a puppet government.

Mr Fletcher, who was the Asian woman magistrate in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.

She was born in Lahore, but moved with her family to Delhi after partition and came to Britain as a student in 1952.

Relations Board (forerunner of the commission) from 1973 until it was wound up.

She is on the Rampton Committee of Inquiry into the educational needs of the children from ethnic minorities and is a member of the Conservative Women's National Advisory Committee.

As part of her community work background she ran a club in Maidenhead for Asian women and toddlers, which provided advice and tuition in English. She helped to start a sports-orientated boys' club for Asians without much English and set up a summer school for Asian schoolchildren.

A schoolteacher before she went into community work, Mrs Fletcher prepared an English teaching scheme for Asian adults, which is still being asked for in different parts of the country. In 1976 she was elected a councillor in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.

She was born in Lahore, but moved with her family to Delhi after partition and came to Britain as a student in 1952.

Rich must rear plea Ladbroke

Mr Justice O'Connor

Mr Justice O'Connor ruled that the least said is soonest mended. The judge, sitting in the Bench Divisional Court, said that Ladbroke's applications for permits be heard as soon as possible.

The matter came before the court on Friday when Ladbroke's lawyers presented and Mr West's objection was withdrawn.

The company said there was a misunderstanding. It had been at court in earlier applications and objections were adjourned and it was thought the application for the 78 central London shops had also been adjourned.

Woman suing police loses case

Miss Sharon Banks, aged 20, who confessed to a crime she did not commit, lost her High Court damages action yesterday against the police. She claimed that a woman constable persuaded her to admit the offence.

Miss Banks, of The Hyde, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, was accused of stealing £50 from the supermarket in Stevenage where she worked as a cashier. The money was later accounted for, but only after Miss Banks had confessed to taking it.

Miss Banks sued the officer who arrested her, woman Police Constable Lily Billman, and the Chief Constable of Hertfordshire, alleging false imprisonment.

A jury of seven men and five women yesterday found unanimously that Miss Banks's confession in July, 1977, was made voluntarily.

Mr Justice O'Connor ruled that her arrest and detention were lawful and gave judgment, with costs, for the police.

Water precaution

Drinking water in Cleveland had to be boiled yesterday after a breakdown at a purification plant supplying about 400,000 people in Middlesbrough, Stockton and Billingham. Supplies are expected to be normal today.

Corner shops doing well despite the superstores

Mr Clayton

There were signs of a revival in corner shops after a decline, Birds Eye, the food company, said yesterday.

Although the number of shops in the country is falling, there was evidence that independent traders and a way of surviving the growing dominance of superstores.

Birds Eye said in its annual report: "It is significant that independent groups have managed to hold their share of the voluntary market, particularly in the price war of the last few years. The voluntary groups are chains of independent family traders like the Don Angel, chairman of Birds Eye, said: "There is an increasing role for the corner shop that consumers are looking for one-stop shopping at low prices, perhaps for the day-to-day shopping."

John Snook, general manager, said that shops were strong in frozen ready meals as opposed to "lead lines" of basic "lead lines" of basic foodstuffs, Birds

Eye, the largest frozen food company in Britain, expects growth in frozen food sales to come from ready meals rather than basic products.

Frozen meals accounted for 15 per cent of frozen food sales in 1979, but only 10 per cent in supermarkets, Mr Snook said. Birds Eye predicted that a record number of large superstores would open this year.

Superstores are large supermarkets with car parks, usually built well away from established shopping centres. Their increasing numbers reflects the growth of car-borne shopping and a reduction in family shopping trips.

Corner shops, open late at night and at weekends, can cover the gap between weekly trips to superstores, Birds Eye believed. It saw signs that the victims of new shopping trends would be the medium-sized High Street supermarkets which killed off many corner shops in the 1960s.

Birds Eye said it was worried about the market for frozen cake, which fell slightly last year. The sector had been bedevilled by poor marketing and sometimes rather poor quality.

Business Report 1980 (Birds Eye Foods, Stratton Avenue, Watlington, Oxford, Surrey).

Dr Kenny ponders legalities of Aristotle's Ethics Czech expulsion still unexplained

By Ian Bradley

Ten days after his deportation from Czechoslovakia, Dr Anthony Kenny, the Master of Balliol College, Oxford, is still wondering what is illegal about lecturing on Aristotle's Ethics.

He has tried three times to discover from the Czech authorities on what legal grounds he and his wife were arrested while he was in the middle of lecturing to students at a seminar organized by Dr Julius Tomin, the dissident philosopher.



Dr Julius Tomin: May cut lecture programme.

So far the only official comment has been a statement by the Czech Ambassador to Mr Peter Blake, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, that Dr Kenny's activities "were not in conformity with Czechoslovak laws and regulations".

The British Ambassador in Prague, Mr Peter Blake, is still awaiting an interview with the Czech Foreign Minister to obtain an explanation of Dr Kenny's treatment.

"If we can get a clear statement about what exactly is illegal," Dr Kenny said, "we would very much like to continue contacts with Oxford and Prague. We do not want to do anything to provoke the Czech Government and we do not want to send people over just to be arrested. Our only purpose is to help teach philosophy and not to make empty political gestures."

So far seven Oxford philosophers have gone to Prague to lecture at the unofficial seminars organized by Dr Tomin in his flat. They have been sponsored by the philosophy sub-faculty of the university, which has spent about £1,500 on the visits.

The universities of Paris, Harvard and Heidelberg have also been sending philosophers to talk to Dr Tomin's students in response to a letter which he sent to western universities two years ago when he was deprived of his own university post.

Dr Kathleen Wilks, lecturer in philosophy and fellow of St Hilda's College, who organizes

the Oxford visits to Dr Tomin, said that there was no shortage of people wanting to go to Prague.

The sub-faculty of philosophy at Oxford University meets in two weeks' time to hear reports from Dr Kenny and from Dr William Newton-Smith, senior tutor of Balliol College, who was expelled from Prague after lecturing to Dr Tomin's students last month. Dr Wilks feels that it is likely to continue sponsoring the visits to Prague.

There is some concern that because of the savage beatings which his students have apparently received,

Pledge over use of organs from accident victims

From Our Correspondent Nottingham

Mr Anthony Rothera, the Nottingham coroner, said yesterday that he would always give permission for the organs of accident victims to be used in heart transplants. He was opening an inquest on Paul Richardson, aged 19, of Orlando Drive, Gedling, Nottinghamshire, whose heart was used in the transplant operation at Papworth hospital, Cambridge, at the weekend.

Mr Rothera said that the success of the operation on Mr Richardson, aged 52, a London surgeon, must have given tremendous consolation to the Richardson family.

The inquest on Mr Richardson, who was fatally injured while cycling to work last Wednesday, was adjourned

Private airline takes over municipal airport

By Arthur Reed, Air Correspondent

Plymouth municipal airport is to be taken over next month on a lease of 125 years by Brymon Airways, a small West Country airline, which plans extensive improvements, including a refurbished passenger terminal and a new runway.

The deal could prove an interesting example for other airlines with domestic routes in Britain, all of which have been complaining about big rises in landing and other airport charges.

Brymon will not have to pay landing charges for operations at its own airport, but it will levy them on other airlines landing there. It also plans to open a duty-free shop for passengers flying to the continent from which it expects to produce a considerable income each year.

The airline was formed eight years ago with three staff and senior management. It now employs 85 and has routes between the West Country and France, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Scilly, the Irish Republic, Gatwick airport, Birmingham, Manchester and Aberdeen. It carried 85,000 passengers last year and estimates 125,000 in 1980.

Brymon has a fleet of four Twin Otters, each with 20 seats, and one Dornier, with 50 seats, and has just placed an order for two more, with spares, for two Canadian de Havilland Dash 7 short-take-off-and-landing (STOL) aircraft, each with 50 seats.

Adoption book plan for hard-to-place children

By Lucy Hodges

A controversial method of persuading the public to adopt black, handicapped or adolescent children by publishing their photographs, and background was introduced yesterday in Britain.

Based on a North American experiment, it centres on a loose-leaf book called *Be My Parent*, which at the moment contains the details of 50 children who are in homes and who have proved hard to place with a family. Its organizers, the Adoption Resource Exchange, are convinced that this is the only way to get these children out of local authority care and into normal families.

Barry has always lived in children's homes and, since he has no contact with his own West Indian family, he has little idea of what family life will be like," the book says.

The Department of Health and Social Security has given its approval to the scheme and Sir George Young, joint parliamentary Under-Secretary, calls it a "most worthwhile project". In the past 12 years the Adoption Resource Exchange has placed more than 1,000 children with families, but it says there are still 8,000 more with special needs looking for a home.

Television had proved to be a most effective method of finding homes for children, Mr Fitzgerald said. Now the exchange is hoping to use newspapers and magazines. If it cannot find a home for a child after six months it will investigate if the failure might be connected with the photograph or description being circulated.

Mr John Fitzgerald, the exchange's director, said: "There will be those who think that this is offensive—that we are publicly exploiting children who have enough to contend with already." Mr Fitzgerald said he would have thought that several years ago. "But what I now think is more offensive is that a child should grow up without a family."

Two of the children in the book, which will be available in places such as libraries and health centres, are Rebecca and Barry (their surnames are not being disclosed). Rebecca, aged 12, suffers Down's syndrome with a heart defect, who has spent most of her life in a nursery. She can make herself easily understood without words, but could learn to speak if someone had the patience to help her, the book says.

Barry, aged 10, a West Indian, suffered brain damage as a baby. As a result, he is very limited in his learning and will always be behind for his age. He cannot read or write yet and needs a lot of help to learn new things.

Mrs Carol Ann Yeaple, who helped to set up the first North American programme, along with those lines, said that after three articles *The National Enquirer* had more than 800 letters.

The 90 councils and voluntary agencies which belong to Adoption Resource Exchange will be sent a copy of *Be My Parent*. A couple interested in any of the children in the book should telephone to the adoption exchange which will put them in touch with the child's social worker. The normal adoption procedures are then started, or last-minute basis. In the summer months the rate will rise to £115.

Under the terms of a agreement, Britain and the United States are allowed to have two airlines flying on the London-Miami route. British Airways already operates as one of the British carriers. British Caribbean has withdrawn its application as it is too heavily committed in opening other services.

£95 Miami air fare move

By Our Air Correspondent

A single fare of £95 between London and Miami will be proposed to the Civil Aviation Authority in London today by Air Europe which is competing to operate the route with Laker Airways.

Sir Freddie Laker, chairman of Laker Airways, was not prepared last night to say what fares he will propose to the hearing, but it is known that his application is based on the type of Skytrain cheap fares which he has pioneered to New York and Los Angeles.

Air Europe, which was

formed last year to operate package holiday flights to the Mediterranean, will offer its £95 single fare between October 1 and June 30 on a standby, or last-minute basis. In the summer months the fare will rise to £115.

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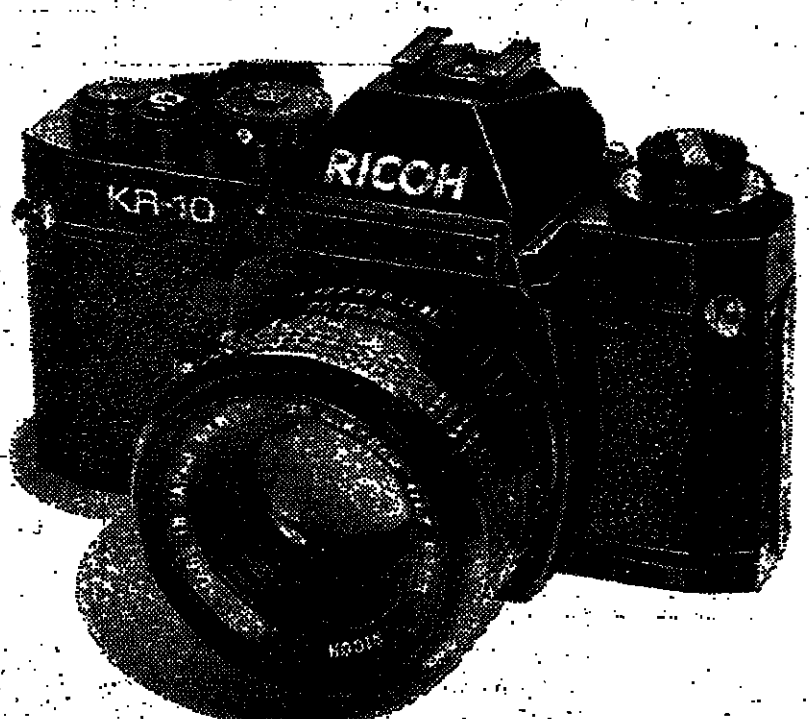
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HOME NEWS

Chief constable calls for introduction of sentencing boards

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Sentencing should not be the sole prerogative of judges and magistrates, Mr James Anderson, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, said yesterday.

The whole judicial process would be better served by the introduction of sentencing boards, using carefully established criteria no less precise than those employed by the Parole Board, he said.

Mr Anderson told delegates at the International Fair, Security and Safety Exhibition and Conference at Olympia, London, that obviously judges and magistrates would be best placed to make the final judgment. But sentencing was an aspect of the judicial function in which the community could reasonably claim to have a substantial interest and effective part to play.

Appointed representatives, using all available data and knowledge of the offender, the convicted offender should be allowed to make a contribution in a consultative process before sentence, for more time was spent deciding how and when to release people from prison than in putting them there in the first place.

Mr Anderson called for the creation of about ten regional police forces whose chief officers could form a committee of "senior police officers" more likely to speak with one voice, to devise operational policies and general police strategies against crime.

A national committee should be appointed of elected representatives of regional police committees to meet regularly with the Home Secretary to discuss public order issues and crime.

The contribution of private security organizations should be properly recognized by official licensing and supervision. Once that was established, there should be much closer collaboration between the police and private security forces on the protection of persons and property.

Mr Anderson said that throughout Western democratic civilization "We are witnessing and passively acquiescing in a quiet but hardly bloodless revolution."

"The induction of general social disorder, uncensored crime and personal negligence have replaced more warlike conduct as the painless way to undermine the stability of the state."

"If disciplined and established institutions like the police service which embody commonly accepted values and stability can somehow be discredited and neutralized, the way is set to demoralize and vanquish the public. Indeed the police service in the United Kingdom represents the largest single obstacle to political and social corruption and ultimate totalitarianism," Mr Anderson said.

"A necessary prerequisite to the democratic process is the power of the police. Is it any wonder then that the police are given such a bad time?"

Recent sustained attacks on the general integrity of the police, questions on the work of the Special Branch, the power of chief constables, doubts about police investigation of their own alleged malpractices and inferences of widespread police corruption were all part of that disquieting prospect, Mr Anderson said.

Police chiefs 'pilloried'

Chief constables were being "personally pilloried" by MPs for speaking out on matters of public concern, Mr Alan Goodson, President of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said yesterday.

It was only right that police should shape public opinion on important questions, Mr Goodson said. They were the professionals and had first-hand experience.

"Chief constables are speaking out more than ever before and what is the result? They are personally pilloried in Parliament."

Police were asked by Parliament to comment on possible trade dispute legislation and were then "accused of being actively involved in formulating views publicly hostile to the rights of workers to strike and to picket."

There had been talk of the "so-called arrogance and non-accountability" of chief constables, but the police were non-political and regarded themselves as accountable, Mr Goodson said.

Mr Goodson was speaking at the Tower Hotel, London, during a conference on police relations with the national news media in the eighties.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, who was a guest, said that Sir David McNee, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, had said "right and as proved right" in his handling of last Sunday's National Front march at Lewisham.

Reduction in custodial remands is urged

By Frances Gibb

Immediate government action to reduce the number of prisoners remanded in custody before trial or sentence, about 6,000 a day, is urged today in a report by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

There should be a statutory limit on the time a prisoner can be held on remand, as in Scotland, the association says. Prisoners were being held for increasingly long periods and at the end of last year nearly 900 had been held for three months.

It also urges an end to the practice by which thousands of juveniles a year are remanded in adult prisons and remand centres. In 1978, more than 3,600 boys and girls aged 14 to 16 were remanded in that way, even though the courts do not have the power to sentence them to adult institutions.

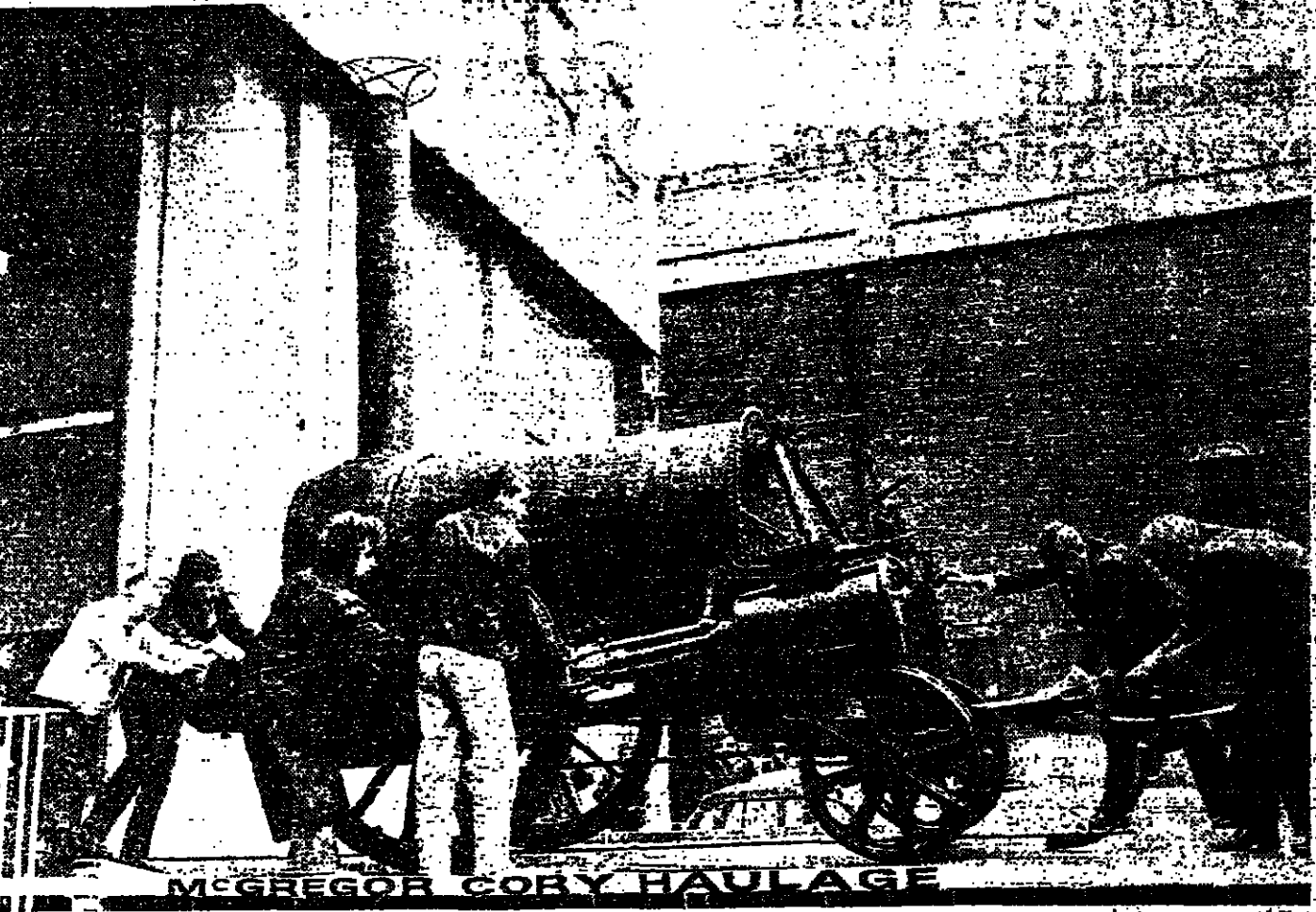
It calls for an urgent review by the Home Office into the factors affecting time spent on remand, saying that conditions for such prisoners are often "very poor" and without educational or recreational facilities.

Of the 53,000 people remanded in custody in 1978, one third eventually received a non-custodial sentence. More than 1,300 were found not guilty, or their case not proceeded with, the report says.

The national average waiting time between committing a crime and trial was 11.1 weeks compared with 7.5 weeks in 1975. In London the average was 18.8 weeks (11.8 in 1975).

A compensation scheme such as existed in France, Germany, Holland, Yugoslavia, Israel, Japan and elsewhere should be introduced for acquitted defendants who had been remanded in custody.

End of Remand in Custody
NACRO, 169 Clapham Road, London, SW9 0PU.



George Stephenson's 1829 locomotive Rocket leaving the Science Museum, London, to travel by road to Liverpool for the Liverpool-Manchester Railway 150th anniversary celebrations.

MP asks about cost of policing Front march

By David Nicholson-Lord

Details of the cost of policing last Sunday's National Front march through Lewisham, south London, have been sought from Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, by Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham West.

Mr Price, who says that sums of up to £700,000 have been mentioned, commented in a letter to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, that it was distasteful to most people that bodies such as the Front "should be able virtually to preempt sums of this order from the public purse."

Support for Lewisham council's refusal to pay its Metropolitan Police precept for next year on the ground that the march was not locally accountable and responsible only to the Home Secretary came yesterday from North Lewisham Law Centre.

The centre said that demands for a local watch committee were of immense importance: "Would last Sunday's massive waste of public funds have occurred if the people of Lewisham had been given a real say in determining whether a few hundred racist thugs should walk Lewisham streets?"

Peace keeping more important than law enforcement commandant says

From Arthur Osman Bedford

Sir Kenneth Newman, Commandant of the Police Staff College at Bramshill, Hampshire, said yesterday: "The police have certain objectives, one of them being to enforce the law; but it is a higher, a superior objective to keep the peace."

Sir Kenneth was speaking at the opening of a four-day conference of "strategies against crime in Europe" at Cranfield Institute of Technology, Bedford. Sir Malby Crofton, a member of the Greater London Council, had asked him in a reference to the violence at Bristol whether or not a blind eye should be turned by the police in certain situations where no great harm was being done, particularly in circumstances of cultural differences and a concentration of a different ethnic group.

Mr John Alderson, Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, said: "This is fundamental to police work. At what stage do you not enforce the law because you suspect you are exacerbating a situation?"

Sir Kenneth cited the example of marches in west Belfast that could lead to violence lasting a week. He said a priority in those circumstances had been to keep the peace but at the same time to achieve a lower priority of law enforcement by less Draconian means. That was achieved by video recordings and other means to make retrospective arrests.

Such enforcement was difficult to apply in a situation like that at Bristol, Police always had to be conscious of the higher priority of observing the peace. "You have to consider very carefully the manner in which you enforce the law. It is a difficult exercise needing the mind of Solomon."

Referring to the Bristol violence he continued: "I think it would have been very difficult indeed for the police of that area to have had foresight of the consequences of the raid they made."

Sir Kenneth, who was speaking to delegates including many chief constables, senior officers from the United Kingdom and the Continent, academics and senior civil servants, said he had been particularly conscious about an overall policing strategy since going to the staff college.

"I have been struck by the fact that in training its senior officers the Army has the advantage of working against a background of a coherent statement of national defence policy from which it is relatively easy to identify, inter alia, the aims and priorities of training. This gives army training a deeper direction and purpose than our own and of course guides the pattern of deployment for army commanders."

"It may be that in a country with a national police force it would be possible to produce a statement of overall policing strategy. In the United Kingdom, however, with 50 different autonomous police forces, this is a difficult exercise."

Sir Kenneth said that one of the features of a British police force was that the lower operative, the constable, wielded wide powers of personal responsibility and discretion, exercised largely as a community or neighbourhood policeman. Not seldom, strategic planning started from a collection of statistics and took insufficient account of the valuable management information possessed by constables.

Referring to the possible involvement of specialists such as the CID and Special Patrol Group, Sir Kenneth continued: "I think that if required should be carefully handled and made responsive to local sensitivities."

MP suggests legal curb on cigarette advertising

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

A majority in the House of Commons would support a complete ban on cigarette advertising except at the point of sale, Mr Roland Moyle, opposition spokesman on health, said yesterday.

The Government was trying to negotiate a voluntary agreement with the tobacco industry to reduce advertising but was getting nowhere, he said.

"If they cannot get a voluntary agreement then I believe the answer is legislation. That is not the better way forward but it is better than no way forward."

Mr Moyle, who as health minister in the last government negotiated the previous voluntary agreement with the industry, which expired at the end of March, said that if the Government introduced a Bill the Labour Party should support it.

"There would be a majority in favour of it. We may lose 10 Conservative MPs because of vested interests and because of the fact that it is too much government interference. But we may lose two dozen on the Labour side who have tobacco companies in their constituency. But I think there would be enough to get it through."

"My advice to the Government is to get it through the Commons and back to the Government to the Hill if it produces such a Bill."

Mr Moyle, who was addressing a meeting of the Medical Journalists Association in London, said that the industry had reached with the industry in 1977 had been suitable at that time when a majority of adults in the country smoked. But that situation had since changed, smokers were in a minority and a tougher agreement was necessary.

He was disappointed that the taxation on cigarettes had not been increased more in the Budget. "After all, prescription charges went up to £1. That was obviously done to make people who are scared off the health service."

"It was not done to increase revenue because they could have raised more by increasing the tax on cigarettes more substantially, with the accompanying benefit to the health service."

He predicted that there would be substantial disillusionment with the reorganization of the health service being planned by the Government because it was not likely to save the predicted £30m and was being rushed through too fast.

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The Lords, having received the Report by the Accountant General of Scotland, in pursuance of the provisions of the Public Accounts (Scotland) Act 1977 and the Public Accounts (Scotland) Act 1978, have approved the Report and have directed that it be printed and published.

The Report is available for sale from the Stationery Office, Edinburgh, at the price of £1.50 per copy.

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OVERSEAS

Foreign ministers to join demonstration of solidarity by Nato

From Frederick Bonnard
Brussels, April 22

Increasing concern with the state of allied unity in the face of the Soviet challenge in Afghanistan led Nato to decide this afternoon that foreign ministers will join the defence ministers at their regular spring meeting on May 14.

This is "under the aegis of the alliance," a determination to maintain and strengthen its defence posture in reaction to the Soviet invasion and occupation of Afghanistan.

According to a senior diplomat at Nato, the attendance of foreign ministers at the Nato meeting was requested by the Americans who attach importance to a positive allied military response.

They considered the presence of foreign ministers would lend added political weight. This response, yet to be requested in the form of a formal letter, is the long term defence programme.

In particular, European member states will be requested to reinforce the reinforcement of the United States which has assigned to Allied Command Europe and which may now be needed as a rapid intervention force for the Middle East.

The diplomats are expected to attend, although it is known that the Italian, Portuguese and Luxembourg ministers will not be able to come.

The purpose of the defence planning committee, in which all Nato nations except France and Greece take part, is to carry out a regular review of

the state of the alliance's defence.

The May meeting is important after the December decision to deploy long-range theatre nuclear forces in Europe: 108 of the Pershing 2 and 464 ground launched cruise missiles. Britain has agreed to take 12 cruise missiles.

Herbert Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, has been criticised for saying at recent party meetings that he advocated a freeze on the deployment of the missiles in return for a similar action by the Soviet Union, suggesting a delay in the decision to install them in West Germany.

But this has been denied by the German Foreign Minister, who emphasised that there was no change to the German commitment.

However, the Belgian decision, which was not off for six months, may now be further delayed since the structure of the Government coalition is still in doubt. Some parties to it wish to see the Belgian decision deferred by two years.

A communiqué has been issued saying that Dr Joseph Luns, the NATO Secretary-General, is to visit the United States and Canada early next month for talks with political leaders.

Nato circles believe that no particular importance should be read into this visit. It is usual for the Secretary-General to meet a new Prime Minister and he has not seen Mr Pierre Trudeau since the Canadian election. The visit to the United States is described as routine.

Greece signs economic and cultural pact with US

From Maria Modiano
Athens, April 22

The United States and Greece today signed a broad agreement on economic, scientific, and cultural cooperation, representing the first positive development in their relations for more than two years.

The agreement was originally offered to the Greeks in October 1978, to assuage their indignation over the lifting of the American arms embargo on Turkey. It was taken up halfheartedly, but later, when Turkey blocked the military re-entry of Greece to Nato, the Athens Government considered that Washington was to blame, and froze all progress on United States-Greek relations.

The signing of the agreement today by Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, the Minister of Coordination, and Mr Robert McCloskey, the American Ambassador, can hardly be regarded as a thaw, as the more important agree-

ments on the future of the American bases in Greece and of the Voice of America relay stations, remain in limbo.

The Greek Government has made it clear that the conclusion of these agreements is directly related to Greece's position in Nato.

Today's agreement, however, certainly reflected a significant improvement in the relations between the two governments in recent months. As Mr McCloskey put it at today's signing ceremony: "The words of the text are not so important as the general spirit of cooperation that they express."

The agreement provides an "additional framework for a more systematic cooperation in economic, scientific, technology, education and culture. It sets up three joint working groups to stimulate trade, joint research, and the interchange of people and ideas."

Mrs Gandhi meets state leaders to seek common policy on Assam settlers

From Richard Wigg
Delhi, April 22

Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, today met all the chief ministers of the north-eastern states for an exchange of views to work out a common policy on "foreign" settlers in that region, and on law and order.

Assam was not represented, technically because it has no chief minister, being administered directly from Delhi, owing to the months of student disturbances.

In Assam a five-day campaign of picketing all government and public offices began. For the third successive day after troops and police regained control over the headquarters of the Assam oil pipeline. No crude flowed out to the rest of India because the oil workers continued to strike.

Stopping the oil more than one third of India's total domestic production, was the Assamese protest movement's economic sanction intended to force the central government to concede its demand for the expulsion of an estimated two to three million non-Assamese settlers in the state, chiefly from the past three decades, chiefly from what is now Bangladesh.

Despite many arrests, volunteers turned out in their hundreds to join the picket lines today.

The Assam student leaders, some under arrest and others underground, decided to go ahead with a fresh round of agitation after seeing how yesterday thousands of ordinary people defied police charges

and tear gas to show their solidarity in the "anti-foreigners" cause.

But with unrest in Assam has been building up over the past 10 years. Previous Congress governments at the centre could ignore it and indeed about the influx of poor Muslim immigrants to swell their party's voter lists.

Many Hindu Assamese farmers were content to employ the Muslim immigrant workers cheaply on their lands. It is their children who are spearheading the demand that the jobs must be for the Assamese in their own homeland.

Mrs Gandhi's meeting with the chief ministers in Delhi today has inevitably aroused suspicions that she may be seeking to end a north-eastern separatist movement against the Assamese agitation.

The central Government has armed itself with many emergency powers as it can, but it has been hesitating to employ them for fear of inflaming sentiment throughout the entire north-east. Moreover, the Gauhati High Court has refused to allow the security forces power to shoot at sight.

But the Assamese separatist movement has not all been troubled by the influx of "foreigners" to the same degree. But in a region with large tribal population and a large tribal population, the Assamese separatist movement is strong.

The central Government could now go to the Supreme Court, argue for shoot at sight powers on the ground that

national unity is threatened, and try to quell the Assamese agitation by brute force.

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OVERSEAS

Creation of Zimbabwe Army meets problems

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, April 22

The presence of detachments of former Zulu and Zulu guerrillas parading beside their former opponents in the Rhodesian army during last Thursday night's independence celebrations was designed to symbolize the start that has been made on creating a new Zimbabwean national army.

The process of amalgamating former guerrilla fighters with the security forces is taking place under a new joint High Command headed by Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, erstwhile Commander of Rhodesian Combined Operations, and comprising the leaders of the Army, the Air Force and the Zulu and Zulu forces.

However, the amalgamation process is going far from smoothly, a fact that is already causing concern for the new Government.

At a press conference last week Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, gave as his top priority the formation of a single army out of the former opposing forces. Mr Mugabe is acutely aware that he will not be able to secure his power base until there is a single, united army behind him.

Until that takes place, the dangers of a renewed conflict, either between the white-lead security forces and the former Patriotic Front guerrillas or between the Zulu and Zulu forces, will continue to exist.

A start was made in amalgamating the three rival forces shortly before last February's general election, when more than 400 Zulu men were transferred to barracks at Esfale, near Bulawayo, and a similar number of Zulu guerrillas were despatched to a remote camp at Rathgar, about 60 miles north-east of Salisbury.

Since then the two groups have been shuffled around and moved to Baila Balla and Llewellyn barracks in the Bulawayo area so that there are about 300 from each force at each of the two centres.

But no progress has been introduced into the amalgamation process since then.

What this means is that whereas about 1,200 former



A group of former Zulu guerrillas are addressed by their commanding officer at a Zimbabwe camp.

guerrillas have been integrated with the security forces there still remain more than 28,000 guerrillas in 11 remote assembly camps that were originally set up by the Commonwealth monitoring force when the ceasefire came into effect at the beginning of the year.

Additionally, an estimated 1,000 well-trained Zulu troops have recently returned from Zimbabwe together with part of Zulu's impressive arsenal of heavy weapons, including heavy mortars, artillery and anti-aircraft equipment. These men are now in heavily-defended positions at two assembly camps. There are more men and equipment in Zambia waiting to return.

The problem facing Mr Mugabe, who is also Minister of Defence, is twofold. First, he must try to accelerate the pace of the integration. Second, he has to reduce the overall size of the armed forces which are far too large for the country's peacetime requirements.

This is a task that has deep

political implications because any attempt by him to reduce the size of Zulu is likely to meet with resistance from Mr Joshua Nkomo, former co-leader of the Patriotic Front alliance but now Mr Mugabe's political rival despite his presence in the Government.

The amalgamation of the original 200 Zulu and Zulu men, which is being carried out with the assistance of British military personnel, has not been easy.

More than 40 Zulu and Zulu men have been placed in detention because of indiscipline and a further 50 have gone absent without leave. There have also been incidents of violence between the former guerrillas and the black NCOs who have been detailed to train them.

One of the main difficulties has been caused by the dual nature of the guerrillas: many were killing one another not long ago. From that point of view the integration could be said to have gone better than

expected, although tensions still exist.

Another problem, according to Captain Robert Sinker, one of the training officers, at Llewellyn barracks, is the general lack of education among many of the former guerrillas.

Many former guerrillas, who had grown accustomed to a considerable degree of independence during the war, also resent the strict discipline they now have to adhere to.

The military problems now being experienced by Mr Mugabe's Government were predicted by the Commonwealth monitoring force, and an attempt was made before the elections to interest guerrillas in reverting to a civilian career. In response to a questionnaire circulated to all assembly camps only 150 guerrillas expressed interest in returning to civilian life.

But police interviewed

from his own Zulu command as well.

They have had their own rivalries with the political leadership of Mr Mugabe's Zulu Party for some time and believe that they should now be rewarded for their role in securing the party's election victory.

Progress has been made in other areas, however. The Commonwealth Security Force Auxiliaries, who numbered about 26,000 at the time of the election and who were accused of supporting Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the defeated leader of the UANC Party, have been virtually disbanded.

Similarly, almost all of the European members of the Selous Scouts, who have left the country, most of them going to South Africa. The nine of the unit, which was alleged to have indulged in a series of ruthless activities inside Zimbabwe and beyond its borders, has been changed to the "Fourth Holding Company" and a new commanding officer has been appointed.

Salisbury Parliament will be opened on May 14

From Our Own Correspondent Salisbury, April 22

The new 100-member Zimbabwe Parliament will be formally opened on May 14, it was announced today. Until then the country will continue to be governed under the emergency powers which were introduced by the previous white administration led by Ian Smith.

The date for the opening of Parliament was decided today at the first meeting of the Cabinet since the country became independent last Friday. The Cabinet also discussed the series of violent incidents that have been taking place in black townships since independence.

One of the most serious of these took place last night. Two supporters of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, were killed when armed men opened fire with machine guns on a funeral procession. A third man was seriously injured.

The incident took place in Mabvuku township, east of Salisbury, where two people were killed and more than 30 injured in a series of grenade attacks on the night of the indepen-

dence celebrations. According to eyewitnesses the attackers came in from a passing car. In a broadcast last night Mr Mugabe condemned the rash of violent incidents and gave a warning that stern measures would be taken against those who committed acts of lawlessness.

Many of the incidents have involved clashes between supporters of different political parties, notably between Mr Mugabe's Zulu (PF) and Mr Joshua Nkomo's Patriotic Front Party.

Ex-guerrillas rescued: A white farmer whose son and daughter were killed in the Rhodesian war yesterday risked his life to save former guerrilla fighters trapped in the blazing wreck of a crashed lorry.

Mr Cherrington Tilly pulled

Amnesty names Ethiopians who vanished

By Our Foreign Staff

The former head of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Abuna Tewflos, three former government ministers, Mr Yohannes Kidane Mariam, Mr Kassa Wolde Mariam, and Mr Seifu Meheteme Selassie, and a mayor, Mr Hareget Abaye, are among 14 political prisoners who have disappeared while in custody in Ethiopia.

Amnesty International, which has been making inquiries about the prisoners, decided yesterday to publish their names in the hope that the resulting publicity might help to protect them.

Eight of the 14 were among more than 200 people prominent under Emperor Haile Selassie, who have been held without charge or trial since the 1974 revolution.

Five of the others were officials of the All Ethiopia Socialist Movement called Meison, which formed the political arm of the new military Government until August 1977, when it opposed the military rulers. The leaders of the group were then either killed or imprisoned.

The prisoners have not been heard of since July 1979.

Questioned by Amnesty International, representatives of the Ethiopian provisional military Government have stated that the 14 have been transferred from Addis Ababa.

According to reports reaching human rights organizations in Britain, killings of former government officials have been common in Ethiopia, reaching a peak during the "red terror" campaign of 1977 and 1978, when an estimated 5,000 people died.

also left unresolved. A 33-nation inter-governmental council is to be set up to direct the international programme for the development of communications, but no agreement has yet been possible on which 33 nations should be chosen.

The Western powers have indicated that the developed countries should automatically be members. The non-aligned nations have pressed for a geographical distribution of representation. Along with other details, this question is to be tackled by a later session.

Mr Amadou Mahtar Mbow, the UN Secretary-General, said in his closing speech last night that if the organization was now involved "massively" in communications, it was because it was not only within its competence but because "communications have become the place where the principle problems confronting humanity come to a head today and will come to a head tomorrow".

He said that to those who feared that Unesco could, as a result of this conference, decisions, pose a threat to the freedom of information in the world, "we say loud and clear that our task does not consist in guaranteeing the freedom of some at the expense of others, but in the contrary, and in contributing to the systematic expansion of that freedom so that it becomes a reality for every one".

Tear gas used to break up Coloured pupils' protest

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg, April 22

Police today ended the uneasy truce or non-violence that has so far characterized the nationwide school boycott by Coloured pupils protesting at unfair education opportunities.

A squad in camouflage gear fired tear gas to break up a march by 2,000 Coloured students near Cape Town.

Mr Marais Steyn, Minister of Coloured Affairs, gave a warning that schools might be closed down by the end of the week unless students returned to classes. He also threatened that the Government "would have to give serious consideration to the position of teachers".

The boycott which began yesterday, in the Cape and Johannesburg areas has spread to the Orange Free State and Natal.

Eight hundred pupils staged a march at Heidelberg, near Cape Town. The march started peacefully and uniformed police kept a low profile until a squad of riot police roared up in 15 vehicles. A police officer urged the students to disperse and the police failed to do so the riot police fired tear gas.

An angry mother of one of the pupils said: "Why do they have to shoot tear gas? The pupils were staging a peaceful demonstration."

In the Johannesburg area, armed police in riot camouflage stopped cars for "routine checks" outside the Reiger Park Coloured township, near Bokshurg, after 650 Coloured

high school children there joined the boycott.

They had marched from their school waving placards calling for the abolition of the Department of Coloured Affairs and "better-type education".

Amid conflicting newspaper reports that up to 60,000 Coloured students had been involved in the boycott so far, the Government claimed yesterday that only about 20,000 were taking part.

Mr Steyn said in Parliament that reports from the schools indicated that the disturbances were spreading under tremendous pressure from agitators.

He said the Government would consider closing down Coloured schools unless discipline and order were restored by the end of the week.

Mr Steyn said the press was as much to blame for the spread of the unrest.

In Durban, 700 medical students at the University of Natal have decided to boycott lectures for a week in support of the school pupils. More than 1,200 students at two Coloured high schools in Durban also joined the boycott.

The Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, the Right Rev Bill Burnett, called on the Government and students to exercise restraint. He said the boycott should not be used as a means of spreading "work of tireless agitators" but "when the gap between education on white and black education is so scandalously wide, there is a need for consciences to be stirred".

Killers of African elephants defy protection laws

Lausanne, April 22.—Man's ingenuity as a destroyer of wildlife is particularly obvious in Africa, where traps, guns, arrows and poison are utilized in elephant hunting.

Battery acid and insecticide are the products most widely used to poison water holes and fruits along the animals' paths, according to a report compiled by the Scottish zoologist, Mr John Douglas-Hamilton, during four years of study in Africa and released here by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Killing methods have become more and more cruel, for in their haste elephant-hunters often wound but do not kill the beasts, leaving them defenceless to die slowly.

Poaching is not the only cause of the African elephant's progressive disappearance—environmental destruction through agriculture and other factors also contributes. Since the rise in ivory prices in 1972, illegal traffic in ivory has increased and surpassed legal dealings.

Many countries try to save the elephant through legislation, but no law can prevent the hunters from selling higher quantities of ivory than a quota permits. Mr Douglas-Hamilton's report says.

Africa's elephant population is 1,300,000, scattered among 25 countries, over a total area of 1,300,000 square kilometres. The greatest amount of contraband ivory comes from Gabon, Cameroon

and the Congo, the report says, although the latter country has the fewest elephants.

Paradoxically Tanzania has the least illegal traffic, although its elephant population is one of the biggest—estimated at 316,300.

The biggest number of elephants—377,000—are found in Zaire, where accommodation licences for elephant safari are liberally granted. According to Mr Douglas-Hamilton, Africa was one of the first countries to ratify the international accord on commerce in endangered species, but only two weeks after the signing a massacre of elephants took place there. He said that the country's administration accedes frequently to political pressures and grants elephant-hunting licences to people in high places.

The Portuguese, who left Angola and Mozambique when these countries became independent, took huge quantities of illegal ivory with them, the report says. And today, ivory is still important contraband, used by rebel groups to pay for weapons.

A powerful group which controlled illegal ivory traffic in the Central African Empire during the reign of Emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa, according to the report, disappeared with the regime.

The report alleges that South Africa, with 2,800 elephants, is engaged in ivory trafficking in ivory with Kinshasa under cover of legal activities. —Agence France-Presse.

Where damages are higher

Gestabo v Brown and Root (UK) Ltd and Another.

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Brandon.

A Portuguese worker, rendered quadriplegic in an accident on a North Sea oil supply ship in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, who started an action in this country against his employers, a multinational company, and received £27,250 in interim payments, was allowed to discontinue the action in order to pursue proceedings in Texas, where he had been advised by United States attorneys (acting on a contingency fee basis) that he would be likely to recover far higher damages.

The Court of Appeal, the Master of the Rolls dissenting, in reserved judgments, allowed an appeal by the plaintiff, Mr Innocencio Fernando Gestabo, of Portugal, from an order of Mr Justice Parker that the notice of discontinuance of his action against the defendants, Brown and Root (UK) Ltd, of Westminster, and Jackson Marine SA, of Panama, be struck out and that an injunction be granted restraining him from continuing or commencing any further proceedings in the United States against the Jackson Marine or Brown and Root group of companies in respect of a claim for damages for personal injuries suffered on the American Moon.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

The Rules of the Supreme Court provide by Order 21, rule 2(1)(1), that the plaintiff in an action begun by writ may, without the leave of the court, discontinue the action at any time not later than 14 days after service of the defence on him.

Mr George Newman and Mr John Remy for the plaintiff; Mr Christopher Bathurst, QC, and Mr M. Leeson for the defendants.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that two answers of Houston, Texas, claiming that "the claim is big business" kept a look-out for men injured on North Sea oil rigs. The worse a man was injured the better for the business. When a man was rendered a quadriplegic and his employers had no answer to his claim, their lookout man reported to the Texas state attorney in England and told the injured man: "Do not bring your action in England where you will only get £120,000. You can get £2,500,000 in Texas". If the man agreed he signed a power of attorney providing for their reward of 40 per cent of the damages recovered.

When the American Moon was in Great Yarmouth on February 17, 1977, a cable flew off a crane and went into the neck of the plaintiff, a 20-year-old crew man, and penetrated his spinal cord. He was paralysed in his legs and arms, a quadriplegic, dependent on others for everything. He was married with children. Mandelville hospital from February to November, 1977. His employers treated him well.

The Portuguese Consul in London was asked by his family to find a solicitor to claim compensation for him. B. M. Birnberg & Co were instructed in May 1977, and they got into touch with Mr. C. M. & Co, the employers' solicitors. No doubt the latter were aware of the Texas state claims agent and his offer of £2,500,000. They did all they could to keep the proceedings in England and said that they would willingly make an interim payment of £27,250. A writ was issued in September, 1977. By consent on March 22, 1978, an order was made for £27,250 to be paid as an interim payment.

In June, 1978, the Texas lawyers came on the scene. They were ready to pay large sums out of their own pockets because of the 40 per cent contingency fee. On July 3, 1978, the Houston law firm of Benton, Musker, and the plaintiff's solicitors agreed to sign authorizing them to start proceedings in Texas. But the plaintiff seemed a bit uncertain. Benton muskewell went to Portugal to see the plaintiff and then came to London and saw Birnberg & Co. He said he thought the damages would come to \$5m.

In February, 1979, a power of attorney was executed conferring powers to represent the plaintiff in the United States for a one-third part of the monies recovered. The power was given to the plaintiff's solicitors. It was expressly stated that it was understood that the plaintiff was not to be bound by the decision in the United States.

That power of attorney was, in the extreme, a very English eyes. It would be invalid as contrary to public policy if made in regard to English proceedings.

Meanwhile the English proceedings continued. The plaintiff required rehousing. On December 6, 1979, a power of attorney was executed conferring powers to represent the plaintiff in the United States for a one-third part of the monies recovered. The power was given to the plaintiff's solicitors. It was expressly stated that it was understood that the plaintiff was not to be bound by the decision in the United States.

On May 14, the last of the 14 days to be with the Rules of the Supreme Court, Birnberg & Co served notice of discontinuance of the English action. That notice might be invalid on a technical point of law, but the plaintiff's solicitors were not aware of it. It was not a notice of discontinuance of the action in Texas. That left only the question of damages in England.

On July 19, a notice of non-suit was filed in the Texas action. But a fresh action was started in the United States District Court for Texas, claiming \$5m compensatory damages and \$10m punitive damages, and requesting trial by jury.

Mr Justice Parker had struck out the notice of discontinuance so that the English action remained in being. He also granted an injunction restraining the plaintiff from continuing proceedings in England.

The judge had held that the plaintiff's advisers were guilty of an error of law, rule 2(1)(1), in giving the notice of discontinuance, because the plaintiff had received £27,250 as interim payment, and that the notice of discontinuance was not a notice of discontinuance of the action in Texas.

The draftsmen of interim payments had negotiated all the terms of discontinuance. Interim payments were inconsistent with the right to discontinue without leave. Once interim payments had been sought, the plaintiff should not be able to discontinue without leave. The notice of discontinuance of May 14 was a notice of discontinuance of the action in Texas.

It was an error of law, rule 2(1)(1), to say so. The American lawyers in obtaining 40 per cent for themselves out of the American litigation, it was an error of law, rule 2(1)(1), to say so.

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Lord Justice Brandon, who dissented, said that the plaintiff's advisers were guilty of an error of law, rule 2(1)(1), in giving the notice of discontinuance, because the plaintiff had received £27,250 as interim payment, and that the notice of discontinuance was not a notice of discontinuance of the action in Texas.

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entitled to receive. The merits of the case were not to be considered. It was justifiable to be considered as avaricious. It would be less than humane to deny to such a victim the opportunity to sue for damages in the country where the accident took place.

The plaintiff's English solicitors could hardly be blamed for not at first discovering that Brown and Root was part of a vast complex based in Texas and operated under the name of Jackson Marine, a Texas corporation. All the corporations comprised in the Jackson empire were owned by the same insurers, for whom Brown & Co acted in England.

It was not unusual that in the United States the scale of damages for injuries of the magnitude which the plaintiff had sustained was much higher than in England. The plaintiff was entitled to receive the full amount of damages in the country where the accident took place.

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rise in unemployment inevitable Mr Prior says it is not being used as economic weapon

the country, how politicize staff appointments in Walsall Borough Council? Should we ask the Department of the Environment to look into such things they could safeguard

I am glad to see that Nalگو have
condemned them. I hope the offi-
cial Labour Party will also con-
demn them for what they are—a
disgrace.

the time and must have a bad effect on foreigners arriving in this country, especially those arriving for the first time?

Lady Burton, of Coventry—The commercial management of British Airways do not deny this system

figures support my assertion. The incidence of dishonest loaders is no greater than the incidence of dishonest passengers.

behind it but was committed to giving local authorities as much freedom from statutory and central government controls as possible.

on households with a chronically sick or disabled person, to report to Parliament and make recommendations.

House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Debates on sales
defence equipment; nuclear weapon
and tortured prisoners on demand.

of the

Many trade union leaders practised a form of partial or complete dictatorship, disguised under the veil of democracy. Public opinion was demanding to be able to over-rule the politicians who often masqueraded as trade union leaders. Sir Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carlisle) said: "If they followed the suggestion of some Tory MPs it would undermine the vital voluntary basis of the movement." He would give respectability to unofficial groups who would win immunity for their action by taking a successful

Following a full review of professional and executive recruitment by the Manpower Services Commission, the Secretary of

ord Treigarnie—In 1976 the total number of confirmed thefts was 16; in 1979 it had dropped to 12. In the same period the number of arrests rose from 14 because of the question which would seem to be to what he has just because they fear if additional time at the

An attempt by Lord Wells-Pestell (Lab), speaking for the Opposition, to exempt anyone entitled to supplementary benefit from having to pay a local authority for home care. We would not wish (he said) to enforce this point by statute, as the amendment desires, though we hope and expect local authorities will take proper note of this. Gov.

of State for the Environ-
ment on his discus-
sion of the Peabody Trust

Mr Richard Shepherd-Brown (Hills, C) asked: seen reports that Weisall the political importance of government officers?

Mrs Margaret Thatcher—I saw the report. If what it says is true, and it seems to be the proposals of

House of Commons

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Employment Bill, 7
part stage continued.

House of Lords
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defence equipment; nuclear weapon
and unruly prisoners on remand.

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SPORT

Football

Forest should guard against too much confidence in Amsterdam

From Norman Fox, Football Correspondent, Amsterdam, April 22

Having scored 22 goals in their three home ties so far this season and being unbeaten in European matches played on Dutch soil since the start of the Dutch championship, the Dutch champions, Nottingham Forest, are in a position to feel confident. Whether their present team can relate past facts to present challenges is the subject of much local scepticism.

After the first leg at the City Ground, a fortnight ago, it seemed that Forest had virtually assured themselves of a place in their second successive European Cup final. The second leg, which was played at the weekend, had added further confidence, even if the Forest manager, Brian Clough, and his assistants, who Taylor discounted the significance of the league game. It would take an immense effort from the Dutch to recover, but Forest will be hoping for an early approach to make absolutely sure of containing a revival.

The Dutch themselves exhibit no convincing confidence. There is a growing feeling here that Dutch football is in decline, yet this is the speculation heard before some of their fine performances, specifically at international level. So there is reason for Forest to remain alert to the threat of excessive confidence.

Forest will almost certainly find that the experienced Dutch international captain, Krol, will attack a much more positive approach than in the first leg. Once Ajax take possession, he will move forward from defence into midfield and beyond. Schoenaker will then have assistance and, in turn, will be complemented. But this supposes that Forest allow Ajax to take the initiative. Previous away matches have shown that they are unlikely to be so dissatisfied. Whatever reservations one may have about the individual qualities of their defenders, they have shown over the past two seasons in Europe that even when in temporary retreat against technically superior teams, notably Cologne at this stage last year, their defence has been more than adequate.

The danger to Ajax is that they will expect an unopposed goal while trying to retrieve the losses of the first game. They will generally have only three men at the back, with Krol ahead of them and Arnesen further forward. The danger to Forest will come from the speed of Krol, who has contracted Shilton's only serious save in the first leg and La Liga, who had to be substituted after a foul by Gray. These two will be more positively supported from midfield. Tahaoui's defence, but exclusively from that game, is out of favour and unlikely to be included. Bostink, the substitute, will probably be preferred.

Again, the Dutch look to dismiss the restrictions of man-to-man marking as he did so convincingly against the inexperienced Borens in Nottingham. Clough, who must commit himself to attack, the extra space at the back should give Francis and Borens opportunities to launch the fourth successive season an English club reaches the European Cup final.

Bowles, who played conspicuously better in the first leg than for the majority of his previous league appearances, may tomorrow find himself replaced by Bowyer, a more combative player with the physical qualities that could be needed if Ajax prove more of a handful than their own supporters' picture. Like football, tend to condemn or praise their team according to their most recent performance. Possibly, the weekend defeat by Maastricht was less indicative of what may happen here than last season's UEFA Cup tie in which Ajax were defeated 4-1 by Honyeyd in Budapest but won 2-0 at home. They could retain their remarkable record tomorrow, but victory on aggregate is something that should be beyond the influence of tradition or the spirit of their team.

While Ajax make efforts to recover two goals here, Hamburg will be attempting the same in the other semi-final round, the second round, which will be held on Tuesday, May 14. With the seeds on the corner it would also deepen the seeds of the national side, Poland sowing the seeds on Tuesday with a 2-0 draw in Turin.

Three consecutive drawn matches with Liverpool has given them the perfect preparation for the second round, which will be held on Tuesday, May 14. With the seeds on the corner it would also deepen the seeds of the national side, Poland sowing the seeds on Tuesday with a 2-0 draw in Turin.

W Ham lose captain and match

By Nicholas Harling, West Ham 1, Birmingham 2

A match that began with its expected atmosphere of euphoria for West Ham United last night ended in intense disillusionment and disappointment that must surely condemn them to another season in the second division, but also lost their captain Billy Bonds.

The expulsion of Bonds, who was sent off along with the Birmingham City defender Colin Todd, in the 55th minute, could have far-reaching consequences for West Ham, for any suspension additional to the one game ban he automatically serves on Saturday, could mean him out of a Wembley appearance next month, not to mention forthcoming League fixtures.

Birmingham, who entered West Ham's fair for an euphoric mood with the organization to show they have completed their homework, had marginally the better of an enthralling first half. From the most of their well-timed breaks, Lynex volley over the bar, after Dillon and Curshley had created the opening.

In the thirty-seventh minute, with a shot curled from the outside of his foot that any Brazilian would have been proud of, Curshley struck the inside of the upright, with Parkes scrambling across his goal. West Ham survived the alarm at the expense of a corner, but the centre from the corner, headed by Bonds, had headed Dillon's kick out as far as Ainscow. Freed momentarily from the task of shadowing West Ham's Cup hero, he turned his effort around the goalkeeper, and minutes later, Bertschin charged down Martin's clearance and lobbed the ball over Parkes, only to see it tickle the top of the crossbar.

With Gemmill playing so deeply that his best work was a flurry of attempted back-passes to West Ham, Birmingham relied heavily on the contribution of Ainscow and Curshley in a midfield, against the home defence since put from Brookling and Devonshire. But the Birmingham pair were never found wanting, as the Birmingham seemed to have run out of options, when Martin put them level with a thunderous header from Brookling's freekick in the fifty-third minute.

Three minutes later came the fracas that was to end the proceedings for Bonds and Todd. On the slippery pitch that was made to fly, Bonds' tackle was made to fly, Bonds' tackle was made to fly, Bonds' tackle was made to fly.

Ritchie goals give Bristol City hope

Bristol City beat Middlesbrough 3-1 at Bristol last night, to hold on to a lifeline to first division safety. Middlesbrough, who have led after four minutes with a header from Armstrong. A shot from Hodgson was parried straight down the City goalkeeper, Cashley.

Although City's football was nervous, they settled down after Royle had turned in a centre from Prichard on the right. It was Royle's first goal for six months. Middlesbrough, playing without Royle, had most of whom will be frustrated for a time as Ritchie headed Bristol in front in the forty-eighth minute following a freekick. Ritchie came through safety in the eighty-eighth minute to make victory secure for Bristol.

Blackburn Rovers lost 2-1 to Sheffield Wednesday at Blackburn on Saturday. Goals from Chatterton, one in each half, almost sealed Wednesday's fate, despite equalizing goals from Downes and Cort.

Fulham's smallest crowd of the season, 3,765, saw O'Driscoll score his first goal for the club as they beat Charlton Athletic 1-0. It was Fulham's worst attendance for a match against another London club.

Wimbledon must rely on goal going back to the fourth division after one season to the third, following a 2-2 draw with Millwall at Wimbledon. Goals from Chatterton, one in each half, almost sealed Wednesday's fate, despite equalizing goals from Downes and Cort.

Villa face test of nerve

Aston Villa's manager, Ron Saunders, is poised to pitch five youngsters to the centre from the Old Trafford cauldron tonight, as Manchester United continue their assault on the League Championship. Brian Little is fighting to be fit. He bruised his thigh in the 0-0 draw at Leeds on Saturday.

Mr Saunders said he was not worried at playing such a young team in front of an expected 20,000 crowd, most of whom will be fanatically urging United on towards their first league title since 1967. "All first division clubs are in a bit of a panic, even an even younger side it Little is unfit," he said.

McQueen is set to return for United, after missing the weekend game at Sheffield, with a knee injury. The Scottish international defender resumed training yesterday and is expected to be fit for the final decision in the morning to check if there is any reaction.

McQueen's return will mean that the team will retain the centre-half position.

Alex Higgins (Belfast) trailed Tony Meo of London 5-2 at the end of the first period of their 19-frame first round match. Higgins, who lost the Irish professional title he had held since 1972 to Dennis Taylor on Saturday, won the first frame on a re-spotted black but was three times behind by one frame.

The Irishman made his highest break of the match so far 42, to keep his frame only to one frame from going into the final evening period.

First round: T. Meo (London) 5-2 D. Taylor (Wales) 5-2, D. Taylor (Wales) 5-2, D. Taylor (Wales) 5-2.

Bowls

Bryant becomes professional to promote game

David Bryant, the world champion, is to become Britain's first professional bowler after signing a ten-year contract yesterday. Bryant, aged 48, three times world champion and twice world indoor champion, revealed his plans to turn professional at a news conference in Southwold.

He will give up his amateur status tomorrow when he accepts prize money for the first time at the end of the Sole Bay international tournament at Southwold. He is to be part of a newly-formed company, Drakelike Limited, and will be paid to promote the game at home and abroad.

Bryant will be actively involved in coaching and will be staging exhibition matches, and the company also hopes to introduce a new style of English-made bowls, designed by Bryant.

Mr William Denny, the chairman of Drakelike and the patron of the English Bowls Federation, said: "David deserves the reward for his services to the game and by turning professional he has secured his future."

David Bryant said after signing the contract: "I am now a professional bowler. I now hope we can encourage more and more people, especially youngsters, to get involved in the game."

Snookey Stevens just misses a record break

In the world professional snooker championship, sponsored by Embassy at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday, Steve Davis, 21, came within one colour of the £50,000 prize for exceeding the championship record break of 147.

He missed the final black at the end of a great break of 136 in the third frame of his first-round match against Graham Miles (Birmingham).

Alex Higgins (Belfast) trailed Tony Meo of London 5-2 at the end of the first period of their 19-frame first round match. Higgins, who lost the Irish professional title he had held since 1972 to Dennis Taylor on Saturday, won the first frame on a re-spotted black but was three times behind by one frame.

For the record

Fourth division: 1. Newport C 10-0, 2. Gwent 8-33, 3. Cardiff 10-0, 4. Swansea 10-0, 5. Exeter 10-0, 6. Weymouth 10-0, 7. Torquay 10-0, 8. Yeovil 10-0, 9. Dagenham 10-0, 10. Maidstone 10-0, 11. Dover 10-0, 12. Luton 10-0, 13. Southend 10-0, 14. Woking 10-0, 15. Slough 10-0, 16. Boreham 10-0, 17. Havant 10-0, 18. Farnham 10-0, 19. Dorking 10-0, 20. Epsom 10-0, 21. Redhill 10-0, 22. Horsham 10-0, 23. Brighton 10-0, 24. Crawley 10-0, 25. Burgess Hill 10-0, 26. Worthing 10-0, 27. Chichester 10-0, 28. Havant 10-0, 29. Farnham 10-0, 30. Dorking 10-0, 31. Epsom 10-0, 32. Redhill 10-0, 33. Horsham 10-0, 34. Brighton 10-0, 35. Crawley 10-0, 36. Burgess Hill 10-0, 37. Worthing 10-0, 38. Chichester 10-0, 39. Havant 10-0, 40. Farnham 10-0, 41. Dorking 10-0, 42. Epsom 10-0, 43. Redhill 10-0, 44. Horsham 10-0, 45. Brighton 10-0, 46. Crawley 10-0, 47. Burgess Hill 10-0, 48. Worthing 10-0, 49. Chichester 10-0, 50. Havant 10-0, 51. Farnham 10-0, 52. Dorking 10-0, 53. Epsom 10-0, 54. Redhill 10-0, 55. 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of a few. Restrictions were announced on the number of days that a season ticket holder could fish in order to stop what are known as "the fishmongers" and the resultant outcry is still reverberating around the authorities' offices at Exeter. It is all very sad. The price of trout is now so high that even the amateur angler may become a casualty of inflation.

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on Daniels at the greater stage

Terson work. But I learnt a lot there and we were doing real local community work, just as I had seen in the Puerto Rican work at the Other Place. The Other Place, which is much more of a local theatre for Stratford people than the main stage can be, was very successful in that respect.

"I don't want to be the object of someone else's imagination; I don't want to be at the receiving end of someone else's ideas. I don't want to be acting. I was quite bad, I think, and also very noisy; I used to deafen audiences with my own music, just as I now deafen actors."

As a parting gift from Cheesman, Daniels was allowed to direct one new Terson at Stoke Newington Community Centre, where he progressed to a successful revival at the 5th W Theatre in London of *The Long and the Short and the Tall*.

"That led, for no reason I have ever really fathomed, to 18 months of total unemployment as a director in 1973-74. I simply couldn't get any work, and I was going to look to writing Pan-Am tourist guides to South America and acting as a stand-in on *Top of the Pops*, which paid very good money. I might as well as push the camera through hordes of screaming teenagers, so it was quite hard work. Then, gradually, I began to get back into the theatre via drama school and came to do some work at the Half Moon and the National Youth Theatre."

Shortly before her tragic death, Buzz Goodbody invited Daniels to direct *White Noise* at the Other Place, the first season at The Other Place, and from there he has seldom looked back.

"I also did *White Noise* at the Long Wharf in America, and that got me to Yale where I've done four or

five productions for Brustein's drama school. There I met Al Epstein who, inviting me to produce *My Darling Clementine*, and in the meantime in the post one day, from his agent, came David Edgar's *Destiny*. I sent it to Peter Hall at the National, Cheeseman at Stoke, Cottrell at Bristol, and they all turned it down. Then I sent it to Trevor Nunn here and within two days he was on the phone saying the RSC would do it. They invited me to direct, and I've been here more or less ever since.

green it has its point, but it leaves Sabella floundering among men with a wealth of passion that no one will accept.

Richard Cottrell's production isolates the quality of his play. The love is rewarded with a long, passionate kiss between Edward and Gaveston, and his later tender touches to Mortimer are ignored. Mr. Cottrell has even cast a man to play the one other woman's role. With a regal control and rich diction Miss Davies withstands the isolation, but the sense of rejection she conveys makes the play heart-treedy.

It should, of course, be Edward's. Marlowe does not make that easy for the actor, picturing a fool and only lifting him to some kind of glory when he is dragged from his prison in the sewers to die. It is at that moment that Robert O'Mahoney finally makes the role his own, something special with it, but for too long he is content to be a flit.

There are strong moments throughout but 'his production' never quite catches together. It is not for lack of effort, for there are fine performances from such supporting players as Robert Coote and David Foxe, but the humor may well come from the funny design by John McMurray. The costumes are sometimes odd, but the New View Theatre into a metal pit. The history of Edward is acted out as if on a noisy hair-shirt.

John Packer to combine with smaller groups of instruments, a "lucked, holed or blown." An especially rare delight was the gentle polyphony caressed from the violins of Teri Finacine in Koyner's arrangement of Jostyn's famous Chanson "Mille Recueil" and the delicate organometal division in another of Koyner's arrangements, "The Kells, in Mudarra's arrangement of "Claro's "Presenc rini".

After a finely measured performance of a pavan and galliard by Catherine on the harpsichord, David Robison moved to the organ for a vigorous interpretation of a classic interpretation of a vicent (fantasia) by the same composer, "Willkommen in der Welt".

Robison closed another terrifically exciting episode from the recorder, crumhorn and shawm.

The instrumental combinations were for the most part judicious and effective, and their programming planning showed scholarship and flair in assuring good continuity and contrast. Some of the transitions were a little abrupt, and a surprising lack of subtle implications in at least one of the humorous songs.

But all in all this was a highly entertaining and memorable occasion.

The Royal Ballet next Tuesday presents a triple bill of works new to its repertoire. Robert North's *Trop Game*, to a mixed score of Brazilian folk and percussion music by Bob Downes, was created for London Contemporary Dance Theatre in 1974. Kenneth MacMillan's *Mr. Brother Sister*, choreographed by Suttner in 1970, is set in Schenck's Five Ballets, *Theatrical Pieces* and *Wetters*. Opp 6 and 10. David Blalock's recent *Adieu* is set to Puccini's *Viola Concerto*.

sings it beautifully, ardent, and with a hint of the sensuous in the Portraiture, but some of his acting was callow. Miss de Kanawa makes a really gorgeous sound, of course, full and creamy, and phrases with warmth and passion. I am not quite convinced that she is yet a full part (as she memorably was in *Les Femmes de Paris* the Paris Opera in 1977): was her singing overpoweringly big and sophisticated, and over-vibrant, wanting in the eager innocence of which the music speaks.

And if it was, that may have been because James Conlon set her, like almost everyone, insuperable difficulties with his slow tempos. Perhaps it takes more experience than he possesses to understand the relationship between slowing and seriousness: which is not merely linear. The Act II music for the priests and the music for the Boys, in particular, threatened to be interminable; vitality, present (after a sloppy start) in the first of the early scenes, faded sadly in the course of the evening.

What I presume was her intended recitation in "I am Woman" was consequently spoken instead by one of the dancers, although we were disappointed to find we had obtained a mite churlish. Neither did the programme tell us whose verse it was, but I think the writer was Dolores Costello-Smith, who, incidentally, was not being female, which is a pretty topical subject at any time, but what the programme called the emotional landscape of her existence was not so barren, the various aspects of female imagery carried through to the three other dancers in only limited fashion.

The first two movements Mr. Loucher cued and beat time for some improvised music on drums and bass, now and then sketching in some fragments of the music of the first of the one of the Platonic Events in a work of that title, portraying a dancer in practice gear frightened by makeup and the other looking at a cork in a bottle as much as to himself. As with the other works, it had the germs of an idea not fully worked out, though it was as choreography or as drama, or in relation to the music of Scott Joplin, although there was a moment of real pathos as the dancer, in the last of the costume he used to wear so unforgettably in Alvin Ailey's *Harlem Song*.

Mr. Loucher's *Mirrors* belongs more to cabaret. It takes its subject from what I suppose must be a Creole or Caribbean artist, showing four women in the first movement who strip them of the dresses for each in turn to dance a solo to a selection of moody songs by Peggy Lee. Failing any more elaborate setting, it would be a suitable vehicle for a sharply differentiated more clearly between the girls in character and personality, inhabiting as they do not so much

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trude in effect: he had a large, sinewy tone, unbridled mobility, yet seemed not to have much finesse. This was deceptive, for the Adagio was far more smoothly shaped, the feeling deeper; and the final Allegro fugato conveyed an apt impression of intellectual ferment. The next day the first British heard the playing of a Sonata for unaccompanied cello by Boris Tishchenko, a pupil of Shostakovich. The first movement is moody and brooding, the second more nervous, the third, unexpected gestures.

Mildly attractive, also, is the Largo, with long, meditative lines, and the finale is the expected outburst of virtuosity, with some interesting passages. A snorous performance of a piece that is well written for the instrument even if it leaves no suggestion of an individual interpretation was given, also, of Debussy's Sonata, though one that was sometimes too direct and emphatic.

At the same yet well-controlled musical level, marked Amiram Kijal's performance of the Bach Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue, but otherwise his playing was not very convincing. His taste for large-sized musical ideas was confirmed by Brahms's Sonata, Op. 5, and if the outer movements were not too much in the manner of marches and rhythms, a sense of struggle is not inappropriate to this work. However, the Andante, and, even more, the last movement, were too extrovert, even if this was a youthful composition.

The Brahms finale demonstrated Mr Kijal's free keyboard facility, yet the passages in the first and second movements of the *Pour le Piano*; the subtle Sarah-bande which comes between them was too noisy, though

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Mr. and Mrs. Clements Mr. Loucher cued and beat time for some improvised music on drums and bass, now and then sketching in some fragments of the music of the past. One of the Plaintive Events in a work of that title, portraying a dancer in practice gear frightened by makeup and the other looking at a clock, turned to a bottle as much as to himself. As with the other works, it had the germs of an idea not fully worked out. The dance, as choreography or as drama, or in relation to the music of Scott Joplin, although there was a moment of real pathos as the dancer, in the last of the costume he used to wear so unforgetably in Alvin Ailey's *Harlem Song*.

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TIME TO END THE FLOAT

The volatility of the world's exchange markets has become a major stumbling block in progress towards price stability and sound economic growth. Currencies move from strong to weak and back to strong again within a matter of weeks or even days. Changes in interest rates, even the suggestion of changes in interest rates, produce quite disproportionate movements in parities. This is to short expectations of both exchange and interest rates, and that damages industrial confidence.

The disadvantages of the present system are now becoming apparent. The steady growth of world trade is gravely threatened by uncertainties about future monetary policies designed to quell inflation can find themselves being swamped by sudden changes in the value of a country's currency, with consequently higher import prices. The breakdown of the link which once existed between a country's rising competitive position and the exchange rate of its currency means that other nations find themselves being edged out of both world and regional markets, even their own.

It is becoming clear that this experience is happening to the United Kingdom. Since early last year the value of the pound as measured by the effective exchange rate has gone up by 16 per cent. Yet during the same period we have experienced inflation at a far higher rate than our major competitors.

A result has been a significant erosion of our competitiveness in world markets. It is also been to put a disproportionate share of the burden of fighting inflation on the manufacturing sector. There is evidence from the discipline of the balance of payments which an employer can pay are beginning to be too high, by managers and alike. The manufacturer, where the squeeze on is tightest at the moment, is to be paying lower wages during the current pay

round than the rest of the economy, particularly including the Government.

It cannot be healthy for Britain's long-term industrial future that manufacturing should bear the brunt of the fight against inflation in this way. That fight must remain the central concern of Government policy. Only if we can reduce the rate of inflation to an acceptable level can we have any realistic hope of recovery. The Governor of the Bank of England was quite correct to warn against the search for an easy alternative when he spoke to the House of Commons select committee on the Treasury on Monday.

An excessive reliance on a high exchange rate as a weapon for fighting inflation cannot be justified, however. The present parity of sterling carries with it a number of severe disadvantages. It is ironic that the value of the pound would have been considerably lower had we joined the European Monetary system, for fears that the EMS would tie us to an overvalued exchange rate were one of the main arguments against British participation in that system. As we recovered the difference in inflation rates, that was an argument we then supported. In retrospect, it is clear that the value of the pound would have been lower and our competitiveness would have been greater had we joined the system last year. That fact alone ought to lead the Government to giving the option of membership of the EMS serious consideration now.

The other main argument against membership was the uncertainty about the right rate at which the United Kingdom would join and the recurrent fears of a run on our reserves which have dominated British economic thinking since the war. These fears seem less grave now than they did then. The impact of the oil price rise on sterling's position has been profound. We are the only country in the EEC with broad energy self sufficiency. This makes us both an attractive place for foreign investors to put their money and improves our position on current account. The danger of British entry into the EMS being followed as a precipitate exit is now

considerably less than it was last year.

What are the criteria which would need to be met for British entry into the European Monetary System to be consistent with the monetary policies which are needed to fight inflation? The first is that there has to be genuine coordination within Europe and indeed the rest of the world of interest rate policies to discourage movements of speculative funds. For such coordination to work, the major countries would need to share similar monetary and fiscal policies. Intervention in the currency markets by Central Banks can only deal with very short term pressures. In the long run, such intervention risks generating yet more inflationary pressure, further fuel international inflation.

There must be a willingness by the British government to accept the domestic consequences of such a policy. The United Kingdom is now a natural centre for international funds. High interest rates here tend to attract such funds, forcing the Government to choose between allowing the exchange rate to rise or inflating the money supply through its intervention in the foreign exchange markets.

This condition is likely to continue for some time to come. The logical consequence of this external upward pressure on sterling is that a Government which wishes to resist it must pursue policies which lead to the level of interest rates required on domestic grounds being the same as those required for foreign exchange grounds. That means that the domestic components of the money supply must not be allowed to get out of control.

The target the Government must set itself is to reduce Domestic Credit Expansion to a level where it can, if need be, cope with upward pressure on the exchange rate without putting its money supply targets at risk. That means above all curbing the size of the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, the one component of DCE over which it has control. A combination of a lower level of public borrowing and a realistic and stabilized exchange rate would combine the needs of our industry and of the fight against inflation.

SCARGILL'S ROTTEN BOROUGH

On Mr Arthur Scargill, leader of the Yorkshire miners' union, effectively took control of the constituency Labour party when left-wing supporters were elected as members of the constituency Labour party and to positions of influence within the party. Now he is the same in another constituency, that of Don Valley. In neither case has he been able to move to replace the sitting MP. Mr Roy in Barnsley, or Mr Albert in Don Valley. But this means that the trend can be reversed with equanimity as the rather less fortunate of local democracy in

if neither member is to Mr Scargill's campaign chairman, conference or MPs in the area. They are the same thing happen in their constituency and they know that if it is Mr Scargill and his men move against them at any time, that is the purpose: to see many members as possible to the extreme opinions of the Yorkshire miners' leadership. And it will be done through the exercise of trade power at local level. In terms of a union can gain a general management according to the number of members it is prepared to

affiliate to the party, without any proper check on them.

The natural response to these tactics is to persuade other, more moderate union leaders to play the same game. But while that may be an effective means of countering extreme left-wing pressure on individual MPs it is not a satisfactory way to run a political party. It makes a mockery of the democratic process, when trade union bosses regard a constituency party as their local fiefdom. What is required is a more far-reaching reform that will broaden the democratic base of the Labour Party.

It would not be practicable under British conditions to adopt the American system of primaries. We do not have any registration of voters here according to party allegiance, as is the practice in the United States, and without that there would be no means of preventing Conservatives from crossing over to vote in a Labour primary, and vice versa. There is indeed cross-over voting of this sort in a number of American states, but it makes a mockery of the process. The more sensible course in Britain is for the parties themselves to see that decision over the selection and reselection of candidates, are taken by as wide a cross section of members as possible.

This means that a candidate

should be selected in the first instance at a meeting which all paid-up members of a constituency party would be entitled to attend. When it was proposed to drop a sitting MP it might be preferable for this decision to go to a postal ballot of all members. There would not be much point in having a postal ballot to choose between two or more candidates, none of whom might be known to more than a handful of members. But that objection cannot apply in the case of an incumbent MP. In each instance the right to vote would belong to individuals as members of the party. Those affiliated to the party by a union would have the right to vote, but it would be necessary to check that they lived in the constituency and they would cast their votes themselves.

If this became the standard practice within the Labour Party it would be a considerable incentive to recruitment because whichever faction was in the minority in a constituency would have the strongest possible motive for enrolling new members—and new members would feel that there was a greater purpose in joining. So reforms along these lines would be the best way not only of responding to the Scargill challenge but also of reviving what has become a largely moribund party at local level.

Service cuts

Mr E. S. Faulkner, who is in this country two years, colleges that provide technical and staff training officers in the British service. They are pre-emptive field and security students from all parts of the world. Although all the training is carried out at the College at Moreton-in-the-Marsh, the higher and more advanced management and staff training for senior officers, is carried out at the Staff College, Dorking. Both establishments are complementary to each

other, and the first of all drives made at the service is to be hindered at the suggestion to close such a unique establishment. It is possible to make cuts in other directions within the Fire Service Department of the Home Office. It is not true to say that government ministers can look again? Save money, yes, but not in this short-sighted and rather thoughtless manner. Yours faithfully, E. S. FAULKNER, Chief Fire Officer, Hertfordshire Fire Brigade Headquarters, Old London Road, Hertford, April 21.

Future of South Africa

From Mr Hugh Price
Sir, Your Johannesburg Correspondent's report (April 16) that Bishop Tutu's "power sharing" really means black majority rule is a disgraceful distortion of what he said. Many whites, including Afrikaners, accept that white domination not only cannot last but is morally wrong. What they will not accept, however, is black domination. I suggest a more sophisticated solution than that of a unitary state. Various proposals for a federal state have been made recently, notably by the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. F. van Zyl Slabbert, who is a political scientist as well as a politician. Another option is radical partition, as advocated by Professor Anthony de Crespigny of Cape Town University. The Left generally

throw up their hands in dismay at the idea, squealing "Balkanization!" However, they appear to accept the landlocked miniature states of Lesotho and Swaziland. It is ridiculous that the only legacy of the colonial era now considered sacrosanct should be borders arbitrarily drawn by European imperialist powers whose first consideration was their own interests and rivalries. Radical partition of South Africa would involve a National Convention similar to that which paved the way to Union. All interests would be represented and everything would be negotiable except the right to self-determination of the principal national groups. The allocation of territory and natural resources would, of course, have to be fair, and the final agreement would have to be backed internationally. Apartheid as a social and economic phenomenon would be abolished.

When one considers the disagreements of Flemings and Walloons, of Turkish and Greek Cypriots, of Jews and Arabs—to say nothing of the aspirations of Welsh, Scots, Irish, Basques and other peoples—it seems to me both sensible and just to divide South Africa. There have been there a long time. There are more of them than there are Danes, or Irishmen in Ireland. As a Christian, Bishop Tutu should drop his winner-take-all attitude. Yours faithfully, HUGH PRICE, Field House, Stanedge Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire, April 16.

Down the wrong road in Iran?

From Mr Leopold Labedz

Sir, How right you are to say in your editorial (April 19) that it is the "whole explosive complex" of the present situation in the Middle East and the Gulf region which should not exercise our minds and not just "the one sad problem of the American hostages in Iran". It is also true to say that economic sanctions are "very unlikely to bring about their release". But your criticism of President Carter's erratic policy would have been more persuasive had your editorial not exuded a distinct whiff of defeatism.

A general plea for "constructive thinking" is hardly specific enough to provide an effective response to the Soviet threat in the Gulf. We all agree that the area "should develop peacefully and without Soviet interference", but alas it is obvious that it is not so developing.

The real question is how to curb Soviet expansion there without a world-wide conflagration. The Soviet proposal, which you rightly describe as a combination of official Cretaceous and of his own wishful thinking, can hardly be said to be pointing "in the right direction". It suggests a kind of new Yalta agreement, but this time in quite a different, infinitely more unstable, balance of power situation. It would amount in effect to a legitimization of yet another Soviet conquest, leaving the region as explosive as before, and the Soviet Union in a better position to reach its political and/or strategic breakthrough.

If we are to avoid this something more is needed than a criticism of President Carter. He is not the only one responsible for the present weakness and disarray of the West. The Europeans have an even greater share in such responsibility and it is incumbent upon them, if they are to avoid "Finlandization", to provide something more to overcome the present difficulties of the alliance and to offer a common offer of "constructive thinking", particularly in the form of negative advice.

What is needed on both sides of the Atlantic is an honest reappraisal of past illusions, now that the chickens have come home to roost after an era which witnessed Czechoslovakia, Angola, Ethiopia, Cambodia and Afghanistan. The present sorry state of American foreign policy should not be used as an excuse for the unwillingness of the European allies to show any real solidarity, take any risks and make any sacrifices for a common cause.

The current spectacle of the frightened European states in search of a fig leaf is not just unedifying; it is too reminiscent of the thirties for comfort. Restoring the strength of the alliance, rather than providing a fig leaf, is the only way to unity to exploit its weaknesses and divisions is an absolute precondition for European and Western survival. Yours sincerely, LEOPOLD LABEDZ, Survey, 133 Oxford Street, W1, April 21.

Future of forestry

From the Director General of the Forestry Commission

Sir, May I immediately correct the erroneous statement by Michael Wigan (feature, April 16) that in the Forestry Commission's "stated their aims of increasing their present land-holding by 1.8m hectares by the year 2025"? The figure of 1.8m hectares was presented as the highest of three possible planting options for the entire forestry industry, both commission and private, to achieve by the year 2025. It is therefore nonsense to suggest that the commission's proposals could in any way involve the effective nationalization of most of the country's forests. Mr Wigan writes that the most detailed of the recommendations which stem from the forestry lobby is the Centre for Agricultural Strategy's report "Strategy for the UK Forest Industry". The value of this report arises from the fact that it has been produced by an agricultural research body independent of the forestry industry.

In its report the Centre suggested that one million hectares of the land to be released for forestry could well come from rough grazing in Scotland, that would mean about 20 per cent of the total area of rough hill grazing in Scotland going to forestry with agricultural production being sustained on the remaining 80 per cent.

Including the estimated area of rough hill land in England and Wales, the maximum proposal would still represent considerably less than one-third of all such land in Britain, and nowhere near the two-thirds he suggests. The best land would, of course, remain under agriculture.

In our experience reaction to forestry in Scotland is not hostile, nor are the public offended by coniferous forests. Mr Wigan may be interested to learn that a recent survey showed that the public pay some 24 million visits to commission forests each year. Many of these forests are, of course, coniferous, but others are broadleaved, particularly in the southern half of England where it is our policy to perpetuate the broadleaved character of the landscape and where we are actively renewing oak and beechwood.

Forestry has a significant role to play in the rural economy of upland Britain, but foresters recognize that it must work in harmony with other land uses, particularly hill farming, sporting, recreation, nature conservation and amenity. Yours faithfully, C. D. HOLMES, Director General, Forestry Commission, 231 Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh.

Documentaries and history

From Sir Douglas Dods-Parker

Sir, I have delayed writing to you until now, but I have been so busy with the truth, a television film entitled *A Man Called Intrepid*, was completed, and to obtain the authority of the annual general meeting of this club, which was given last night, to the following preface.

Sir William, "Little Bill" Stephenson's contribution in the field of Special Operations from 1939 to 1945 was second only to those of Colin Gubbins and "Big Bill" Donovan. But no one could have done all "Little Bill" was alleged to have done. Innumerable ideas and actions in the whole sphere of Special Operations, which he had little or nothing to do with, were ascribed to his initiative. Such inaccuracy and exaggeration can only detract from Sir William's very great contribution to victory.

How can such inaccuracies be prevented from becoming accepted in due course as history? Letters to the press are ephemeral, but the press are ephemeral, too. It is given access to such records as were ever made, often so few, especially in the early years, and which survive, to be used even by responsible historians. There is of course considerable, documentation which must remain for good reasons, permanently secret. But even if the Government opens the records wider to those proved responsible, how can it be ensured that the truth, so often far more sensational than any fiction, are not twisted out of recognition by those seeking sensation, rather than being published by historians recording the truth?

I am, etc. DOUGLAS DODS-PARKER, President, Special Forces Club, 8 Herbert Circus, Knightsbridge, SW1, April 18.

Overseas students' fees

From Mr Dick Philbrick

Sir, I must support Mr W. G. N. Giddes' call (April 18) for a review of the policy on overseas students' fees. On a recent business trip to Ankara I visited six companies. In four of those companies the directors who undertake responsibility for purchase of construction equipment had graduated from British universities. Britain has no particular historical or political links with Turkey but they were unashamedly prejudiced towards British equipment.

In Saudi Arabia I find there is a real preference for Arab and

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Lieutenant-General Sir John Glubb

Sir, In 1792, at the height of the French Revolution, Austria and Prussia declared war on France, thereby intensifying the fanaticism and rousing a passionate wave of patriotism. The result was to plunge Europe into 22 years of war.

It is also true to say that economic sanctions are "very unlikely to bring about their release". But your criticism of President Carter's erratic policy would have been more persuasive had your editorial not exuded a distinct whiff of defeatism.

A general plea for "constructive thinking" is hardly specific enough to provide an effective response to the Soviet threat in the Gulf. We all agree that the area "should develop peacefully and without Soviet interference", but alas it is obvious that it is not so developing.

The real question is how to curb Soviet expansion there without a world-wide conflagration. The Soviet proposal, which you rightly describe as a combination of official Cretaceous and of his own wishful thinking, can hardly be said to be pointing "in the right direction".

It suggests a kind of new Yalta agreement, but this time in quite a different, infinitely more unstable, balance of power situation. It would amount in effect to a legitimization of yet another Soviet conquest, leaving the region as explosive as before, and the Soviet Union in a better position to reach its political and/or strategic breakthrough.

If we are to avoid this something more is needed than a criticism of President Carter. He is not the only one responsible for the present weakness and disarray of the West.

The Europeans have an even greater share in such responsibility and it is incumbent upon them, if they are to avoid "Finlandization", to provide something more to overcome the present difficulties of the alliance and to offer a common offer of "constructive thinking", particularly in the form of negative advice.

What is needed on both sides of the Atlantic is an honest reappraisal of past illusions, now that the chickens have come home to roost after an era which witnessed Czechoslovakia, Angola, Ethiopia, Cambodia and Afghanistan. The present sorry state of American foreign policy should not be used as an excuse for the unwillingness of the European allies to show any real solidarity, take any risks and make any sacrifices for a common cause.

The current spectacle of the frightened European states in search of a fig leaf is not just unedifying; it is too reminiscent of the thirties for comfort. Restoring the strength of the alliance, rather than providing a fig leaf, is the only way to unity to exploit its weaknesses and divisions is an absolute precondition for European and Western survival. Yours sincerely, LEOPOLD LABEDZ, Survey, 133 Oxford Street, W1, April 21.

The current spectacle of the frightened European states in search of a fig leaf is not just unedifying; it is too reminiscent of the thirties for comfort. Restoring the strength of the alliance, rather than providing a fig leaf, is the only way to unity to exploit its weaknesses and divisions is an absolute precondition for European and Western survival.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT NEILD, 5 Cranmer Road, Cambridge.

Electoral reform

From Sir Nigel Fisher, MP for Kingston upon Thames, Surbiton (Conservative)

Sir, As a vice-president of Conservative Action for Electoral Reform, may I express my full agreement with and support for Sir Alastair Pilkington's advocacy (April 21) of a referendum on electoral reform. Although a referendum is, in my view, normally undesirable as being inconsistent with our system of parliamentary democracy, it has come to be accepted as suitable for constitutional issues—as for instance joining the EEC and Scottish and Welsh devolution. If it resulted in a majority for a system of proportional representation, this would be influential in persuading the leadership of both the main parties at least to consider seriously (which they have not yet done) the benefits of electoral reform in ensuring greater continuity of policy. This in turn would encourage business to invest with greater confidence.

A system of proportional representation, preferably based on the German model, would also make it impossible for an extremist government to be elected on a minority of votes. Yours faithfully, NIGEL FISHER, House of Commons, April 21.

Value of the midwife

From Mrs E. Cockerell

Sir, Although it is pleasing to read of the interest of *The Times* in the plight of the midwife, I am sorry to hear that the Association of Radical Midwives (April 15), he is surely mistaken in presuming that the association's encouragement of women to take a more active role in the birth of their children will reduce the need for the services of midwives.

Rather, this indicates a welcome extension of the role of the midwife, and her recovery of one of her authentic functions. Incidentally, I refer to "radio" in this context, not "left". Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH COCKERELL, Honorary Secretary, Association for Improvements in the Maternity Services, 10 Stonecliffe View, Leeds, April 15.

Billingsgate plans

From Mr Peter Rigby

Sir, Mr Marcus Binney (April 18) really cannot be allowed to have his cake and eat it. In an argument on building economics, for him to have cited Covent Garden in support of his case for retention of market buildings is astonishing. The taxpayer has had to find £13m to pay for that move, in part because the new market authority was unable to obtain the value of the old sites which had been listed. A parallel case, yes, but it proves the opposite to Mr Binney's claim.

He is wrong again to say that the Billingsgate site has only to finance part of the cost of the new market. The urban aid contribution to the new market has been gathered together by postponing projects in the five docklands boroughs. The City Corporation has agreed to repay this money, after covering its own costs, by an arrangement to share any surplus. Mr Binney's approach ignores that agreement.

All the participants in the market move are concerned that the old site should produce the maximum return so that the urban aid is repaid and the projects in the other

boroughs can be put back in the programme and built. It is to be regretted that somehow in this controversy the main factor always seemed to be missed, namely people, because, after all, that is what Billingsgate fish market is all about.

Yours faithfully, PETER RIGBY, Chairman, Billingsgate and Leadenhall Markets Committee, Members' Room, Guildhall, EC2, April 21.

Whisper who dares

From Mrs C. R. Singer

Sir, Sexual equality is all very well, but it is not inaccurate and mildly ridiculous to describe the lady governor of Pucklechurch Remand Centre as "the governor" (April 16)? Or does she really supervise the prisoners' lessons and see that they brush their teeth last thing at night? Yours faithfully, CLAUDE R. SINGER, Bean Place, Betheredon, Ashford, Kent.

Professional views of the Kelly inquest

From Professor Alan Usher

Sir, On Wednesday last, April 15, I was surprised and quite frankly appalled to see Michael Meacher, MP, appearing on a national television programme, reiterating many of the wild inaccuracies concerning the injuries to the late James Kelly, which have been widely disseminated by certain sections of the press in the 10 months since this unfortunate man's death. Mr Meacher spoke of "a fractured toe", "a crushed vertebra", "a shattered limb" and "over 40 bruises and marks of violence" and he appealed for a public inquiry into the Kelly affair.

We have just spent a very considerable sum of money, running into many thousands of pounds, upon a wide-ranging public inquiry, called a coroner's inquest—which ventilated very fully the circumstances surrounding Kelly's death. It was the longest and most thorough such inquiry which I have attended in a professional career spanning a quarter of a century and including literally thousands of inquests. It could not, nor in my view could any form of inquiry, make absolutely clear every aspect of this fatality, but it did establish clearly certain facts, and it is those which I hope Mr Meacher will perhaps at least consider before he again pronounces in public on this matter.

James Kelly did not have a fractured toe. He did not have a shattered limb—there was in fact no fracture present on any of his limbs. James Kelly did not have a crushed vertebra or a fractured spine—there was no recent bony injury to his spine at all. He did have some 40 marks of violence on his body, but most of these were small and superficial—less than half of them measured more than one inch in any diameter and one or two were of the order of an eighth of an inch in diameter. A large number of these marks were on the arms and knees where drinks usually sustain minor grazes and bruises of this sort. I have seen in the past more than 70 such marks on the body of an alcoholic where there was no suggestion of assault by a second party. There was not a single mark on Kelly's body which could be identified as having been caused by a run-over or a boot or the suggestion which was originally made that he was beaten with a "bar-like object" was retracted at the inquest by the doctor who originally made it. The damage to internal organs such as the brain, spleen, liver and bladder which is commonly seen in cases of fatal beatings was entirely absent from Kelly's body.

Further, it is absolutely untrue

that Kelly's death was at first certified as being due to natural causes—the inquest being that this was done to avoid having an inquest and revealing his injuries. There was no preliminary death certificate issued at all as it was obvious from the start that a coroner's inquest would require to be held. The only death certificate ever to be issued on James Kelly was issued by the Coroner at the end of his inquest last Wednesday.

I can say that medically, the case was completely "open"—all three pathologists saw all of the material which was available in order to form their opinions and there was no cover-up whatever. No pressure, as far as I am aware, was exerted upon any of us, by either the police or the solicitors representing the Kelly family, both of whom acted with perfect propriety throughout.

I hope that this tragic episode will now be regarded as closed—if it is not, then perhaps those with an interest in its continuance will see their case upon facts and not upon rumours and surmise.

I remain, Sir, Yours faithfully, ALAN USHER, University of Sheffield, Watfield Street, Sheffield, April 18.

In the foreground

From Mr Humphrey Brooke

Sir, I have recently returned from Vienna, where I was in charge of the museum from January to September, 1946. It can hardly be doubted that one of the two or three finest buildings in this capital city is the great Karlskirche, the Baroque masterpiece of Fischer von Erlach, the elder, undoubtedly Austria's leading architect of all time.

The facade of this church is flanked by two enormous columns. Immediately in front of these there is no large pool (concrete), painted blue, the setting for a metal abstraction by Henry Moore, O.M. However distinguished that might be in a setting such as the entrance to the Tate, it is said to find it immediately in front of Fischer von Erlach. It is, in fact, doing more harm aesthetically than the notorious and sentimental Russian war memorial in the adjacent Schwarzenberg Platz. An Austria guide who emerged from the Karlskirche while we were there was critical but had forgotten the name of the sculptor.

Presumably the British Council is mainly responsible for this urban landscaping. Yours, etc. HUMPHREY BROOKE, 8 Pelham Crescent, SW7, April 17.

A poor indication

From Mr John Louis Lepage

Sir, If the new £53m version of the Glasgow Underground (report, April 15) is an indication of British workmanship and technology, we had better scrap the Channel tunnel. Yours respectfully, JOHN LOUIS LEPAGE, Queen Margaret Hall, Glasgow, April 17.

Strong language

From Mr Trevor Lytleton

Sir, Some years ago I saw a bottle of "VAT 69" whisky in a bar in Mandeville, Jamaica, marked: "Made in Scotland, England". Yours faithfully, TREVOR LYTLETON, 33 Bryanston Square, W1, April 20.

Billingsgate and Leadenhall

Markets Committee, Members' Room, Guildhall, EC2, April 21.

NEDO chief's case for oil funds to aid industry

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Revenue from North Sea oil should be earmarked to help key sectors of industry, according to Mr Geoffrey Chandler, director general of the National Economic Development Office.

An industrial policy aimed at strengthening industry's technological base and helping individuals to adapt to change should be drawn up. This would then form the vehicle for channeling oil revenue into the most appropriate areas.

Mr Chandler's speech to the British Institute of Management's Westminster branch, was an introduction to the debate due to take place between industry, the government and the unions at the National Economic Development Council next month.

The three sides have been invited to give recommendations for the use of North Sea oil profits by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

While he acknowledged the dislike by all treasuries and finance managers for allocating particular sources of revenue for particular purposes, Mr Chandler also stressed the



Mr Geoffrey Chandler: Oil a buttress for industry.

crucial nature of North Sea oil funds. "It is the only buttress this country has to cushion its poor industrial performance. It will not last forever and we have to use the time during which it is available to re-create an industrial potential against the day of its decline."

A policy of gradual depletion was needed, both to conserve supplies and to modify the impact of oil on the exchange rate.

The type of technological development which Mr Chandler considers ought to be given

more encouragement includes automation, robotics, computing and telecommunications systems as well as micro-electronics.

There should be more government assistance for research and development in these areas which companies are unable to sustain during a recession.

There should also be better links between universities, government establishments and the needs of the market place in technical fields.

"If oil revenues are not to come and go unnoticed, if they are to be identified as a specific resource for production rather than consumption, then something needs to be done to underline their crucial role and ephemeral nature."

A debate on the national policy towards depletion of North Sea oil was overdue and might well be too late.

However, the "massive and unforeseen rise in oil prices should help to provide greater flexibility in finding an acceptable balance between a longer and lower plateau of production on the one hand and, on the other, the return on both present and future investment necessary to maintain a high rate of activity."

Third World divided over IMF gold sales

Hamburg, April 22.—The world's developing countries are divided over what to do with the 103 million ounces of International Monetary Fund (IMF) gold, with the least developed nations wanting the IMF to auction all its gold and more advanced developing countries opposing such a policy.

It was agreed that developing countries should be at the top of the agenda and rank foremost.

Discussion should centre on a modification of the current quota system which, it is said, favours the rich industrialized nations.

The group of 10 most industrialized nations: the United States, Britain, Japan, West Germany, France, Italy, Canada, Holland, Belgium and Sweden account for about 56 per cent of the IMF quota.

Sources said the group of 24 developing countries proposed a selective increase in the IMF's eighth quota increase that would favour developing countries and give them increased access to the fund's financial resources.

They said that the positions drafted by the deputies would be discussed by the group of 24 finance ministers and central bank governors today and would surface in a meeting tomorrow of the joint development committee of the IMF and World Bank.

The world economic situation, development aid and recycling problems, the setting up of an IMF proposed substitution account and the issue of future IMF gold sales are all expected to be tackled by the interim committee.

Managers' pay rises below average

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Managers' earnings continue to lag behind pay in general, according to the latest remuneration survey published by the British Institute of Management (BIM) yesterday.

Despite last year's income tax cuts and the abolition of pay control, the average manager's net pay is still about 7 per cent down in real terms on what it was in 1974. This compares with a fall of only about 2 per cent for the average wage earner.

Mr Roy Close, the director general of the BIM, says in the introduction to the survey that

"managerial skills, experience and responsibility all need to be recognized and fairly remunerated if the economy is to thrive, and if we are to attract sufficient people of the right calibre and qualifications into the essential task of management in the future."

Managers are slightly better off compared with wage earners than they were a year ago. In 1979, their real net pay was about 9 per cent below the 1974 rate, while wage earners in general were 3 per cent down on the 1974 level.

The highest grades of executive benefited most from tax

cuts, and the tendency has been for companies to concentrate on increasing the pay of lower management.

The survey shows that the basic salaries of supporting managers, those not on the board, went up by 2.6 per cent during the last 12 months compared to an increase of 3.8 per cent recorded for executive directors. One of the factors has been the use of pay restraint differentials for the lower level of management: over the earnings of clerical and manual workers.

An increasing number of managers receive bonuses on top of their basic salaries. The

proportion of the sample who recorded bonus payments has been rising steadily from 35 per cent in 1978 to 52.4 per cent last year. The present figure is 55.3 per cent.

The provision of company cars for managers increased 13 per cent of the total compared with 45 per cent in 1977. Pensions and other fringe benefits showed no significant change in the past year.

BIM's National Management Salary Survey 1980, from Remuneration Economists, 51 Portland Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey KT1 2SH, price £120 for non-members.

Call to keep private capital out of BNOC

By Donald Macintyre

The trade union movement was urged yesterday to resist plans to introduce private capital into the state-owned British National Oil Corporation by one of the corporation's non-executive directors.

Mr Gavin Laird, an executive member of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, who sits on the BNOC board, told his union's national committee yesterday that plans to sell shares in the corporation "are not a good idea in a business sense and not a good idea for the security of oil".

The attack on government plans to invite private investment in the corporation's offshore interests came the day after BNOC announced its first annual profit of £75m.

Mr Laird said that if left to itself "in a few short years" the state-owned oil sector would be putting about £1,000m a year into the exchequer.

He said it would be a tragedy if a big shareholding was sold off to private industry and gave warning that such a move would almost certainly attract American or Middle East interests.

Mr Laird said a modern in-

dustrial base could not be funded by North Sea oil alone, adding: "Oil can and should play a substantial part, but if we give assets into private hands how can that be?"

He said that the corporation, which announced on Monday that its share of recoverable offshore reserves stood at 300 million barrels, had been responsible for 23 out of the 54 wells drilled last year in the North Sea. "We are talking about the exploitation of mineral wealth which should belong to the population of the country," he added.

The AUEW national committee backed a resolution opposing "any further sales of shares in BNOC which would transfer this country's oil assets to multinational companies or foreign governments".

And it called for British exploitation and control of national resources, including coal and nuclear energy, planned conservation, cheap supplies to the domestic consumer, full consultation with unions on energy and "maximum application and disclosure of safety measures".

Threat to banks from leapfrogging claims

By David Felton

Bank employers' fears that conceding a messengers' party claim could lead to leapfrogging pay claims by other employees appeared to be justified yesterday when leaders of the National Westminster Bank Staff Association reversed an earlier decision to accept a 19 per cent offer for clerical workers.

The messengers' claim, which led to a strike by members of the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union (BIFU), caused widespread disruption of the banking system, was settled on Monday night with

party being given with unskilled maintenance workers staged over two years.

Last week the management committee of the staff association agreed to accept the offer, but yesterday this decision was overturned by the association's full executive council. Members felt the messengers' award widened differentials with clerical staff and the association will be seeking a meeting with the employers to press for an in-

crease in the offer. The employers have said the 18 to 20.4 per cent offer was final.

Steel fabricators face threat to exports

By John Huxley

Constructional steelwork fabricators face three difficult years during which export competitiveness will be threatened by the high value of sterling and domestic cost inflation, according to an industry report published yesterday.

The industry's problems have already been exacerbated by the effects of the recent steel strike.

Provisional estimates show that exports slumped in 1979, after doubling in volume between 1974 and 1978 to 150,000 tonnes. Last year they fell to 85,000 tonnes and a fur-

ther fall of 5,000 tonnes is forecast for 1980.

In 1978, the total value of United Kingdom production was about £740m, of which exports accounted for £119m.

The report prepared by the industry sector working party for the National Economic Development Council, says that total demand last year fell by about 2 per cent. This marks the beginning of a three-year downturn in total demand according to the British Steel Corporation's estimates.

There is little buoyancy in the domestic market, where the industry is largely dependent on industrial building and pro-

cess plant work, and the report says that the future prosperity of the sector depends largely on its export performance.

However, the working party fears that the high value of sterling and a rate of cost inflation above that of Britain's main competitors will combine to make United Kingdom steelwork so uncompetitive on price that exports could continue at the present depressed level.

Constructional Steelwork SWP Progress Report 1980 and Study of Recruitment, Training, and Retention of skilled workers, NEDO Books, 1 Steel House, 11 Tothill Street, London SW1H 9LJ.

S. PEARSON & SON

Pearson
Longman

Royal
Doulton

Lazard
Brothers

Midhurst
(USA)

Madame
Tussaud's

Group results for 1979

Preliminary announcement by Lord Gibson

1979

1978

Profit of the group before taxation

£53.73m

£51.43m

Profit before taxation attributable to S. Pearson & Son

£40.36m

£39.17m

Profit after taxation (excluding extraordinary items)

£26.51m

£24.59m

Earnings per ordinary share

38.7p

35.9p

Dividends per ordinary share

10.0p

8.0p

Turnover (excluding banking and investment income)

£483.8m

£401.3m

In the second half of the year under review the Pearson group more than recovered the ground lost in the first half. The transport strike seriously disrupted the activities of several of our companies early in 1979 and total profits for the first six months fell by 7 per cent. In the second half, in spite of the engineering strike, the improvement over the previous year was such that total profits for the whole year increased by 4 per cent to £53.7 million. Earnings per share rose by 8 per cent to 38.7p helped by a proportionately lower tax charge than in the previous year.

The results of the five major divisions will be described in full in the 1979 report and accounts which will be posted to shareholders on 7th May 1980. The profits of Pearson Longman and Madame Tussaud's were both slightly higher. Doulton just missed maintaining its profits, while those of

Whitehall Trust increased satisfactorily due to a higher contribution from Lazard. The star performer was Midhurst Corporation (USA) where profits were substantially increased.

The ending of dividend controls allows the payment of a materially higher dividend. We are recommending a final ordinary dividend of 6.25p per share (payable on 2nd June 1980 to shareholders on the register at 9th May 1980) which will increase the net total for 1979 by 25 per cent over 1978. This, on top of last year's 17 per cent increase, will go some way to compensate shareholders for real income lost during the period of dividend restraint.

The annual general meeting will be held in London on 30th May 1980.

Backing for monetary base control system

By John Whitmore

Fresh support for a system of monetary base control comes today from stockbrokers W. Greenwell in a special edition of its *Monetary Bulletin*.

The brokers also criticise the approach of the authorities to monetary control, arguing that they are still wedded to the philosophy of controlling the demand for money rather than acting directly on its supply.

W. Greenwell suggests that experience has shown that this approach is unreliable and can lead to large fluctuations in interest rates, especially if the supply of money is behaving erratically at the same time. Direct control of the supply of money, it is argued, would not involve suppression of the price mechanism, but to the extent that it produced a smoother trend in the supply of money it should make for rather smaller fluctuations in interest rates.

Greenwell goes on to suggest that the logical way to control supply is through controlling the monetary base. Changes in the monetary base involve factors that are all under the control of the monetary authorities: public sector borrowing requirement, activities of the Exchange Equalisation Account and sales of public sector debt.

The broker, who favours a mandatory cash ratio system for the banks, argues that this system should be used with considerable limitations on the activity of the central bank in its capacity of lender of last resort. The central bank should be able to provide "lifelines" help to individual banks in trouble; it should also be able to provide more general help were the banking system to become exposed to some substantial external shock. But routine daily operations of providing banking reserves on demand should be stopped.

The safety buffer in the system should be largely that of excess reserves built up by the banks and, perhaps, a facility for "borrowed" reserves (as at present available in the United States) as a transitional measure.

Higher Canadian tax on drinks

Ottawa.—The new Canadian government increased taxes on smokers and drinkers last night to generate more revenue for higher government spending.

Mr Allan MacEachen, the finance minister, announced increases in taxes on spirits, wine and tobacco, revived from previous budgets but never implemented, in a surprise mini-budget.

Mr MacEachen said Canada was better placed than some countries to weather present worldwide economic woes, but growth this year was forecast at only about 1 per cent.

Among tax measures was a temporary 5 per cent surtax on businesses effective from January 1, which finance ministry officials said would raise about \$Can360m (£138m) in the 1980-81 fiscal year.

The new taxes raised tobacco prices by about 10 per cent, and the cost of a pack of 20 cigarettes by 25 cents. The extra cost of wine varied, but a bottle of wine was expected to cost another 13 cents.

Steels

(INTERNATIONAL TRADERS AND MANUFACTURERS)

1979 Preliminary Profit Announcement

	1979	1978
Group turnover	£2,000	£2,000
Group profit before items listed below	100,790	96,882
Interest payable	7,457	6,983
	2,245	2,188
	5,212	4,795
Profits of associated companies	596	1,675
Group profit	5,808	6,470
Taxation U.K.	809	1,224
Taxation overseas	1,845	1,693
	2,654	2,917
Profit after taxation	3,154	3,553
Extraordinary items	492	(49)
Profit after all charges	3,646	3,504
Minorities	494	384
Profit attributable to members	3,152	3,120
Preference dividends	36	36
Ordinary dividends	883	786
	919	822
Profit retained	2,233	2,298
Earnings per Ordinary Share based on 11,033,309 shares (1978-10,990,305)	23.78p	28.51p

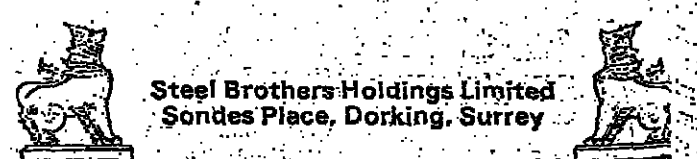
Fall in group profits from £6.47m to £5.81m in spite of excellent results from Canadian operations where profits measured in local currency more than doubled was due to:

- adverse effect of exchange rate fluctuations on profits earned overseas.
- lower level of profits earned in the Middle East
- unexpected level of losses from rice milling and trading in the second half of the year.

Subject to world trading conditions good scope exists for improvement in 1980.

DIVIDEND

The recommended final ordinary dividend per share is 4.85p (£535,115) and dividend warrants will be posted on 2nd July to shareholders registered on 3rd June 1980. The total dividend for 1979 will therefore be 8p (gross 11.43p) which compares with 7.15p (gross 10.67p) for 1978.



Steel Brothers Holdings Limited
Soudes Place, Dorking, Surrey



Queens Moat Houses Limited
Hoteliers

A YEAR OF EXCELLENT PROGRESS

- Chairman John Burrows reports results for the year to 31st December 1979:
- ★ Pre-tax profits up 55% to a record £682,000
- ★ Turnover 21% ahead at £11.8 million
- ★ Dividends for the year raised to 15% (10-314%)
- ★ Further major hotels acquired by the Group.

Despite record interest rates current trading indicates a further significant improvement in 1980.

Copies of the 1979 Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Company Secretary, Queens Moat Houses Limited, Queens Moat House, St. Edmund's Way, Romford, Essex RM1 4DD.



Mr M G R Sandberg, OBE, Chairman

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Incorporated in Hong Kong with Limited Liability

Statement to shareholders

by the Chairman, Mr M G R Sandberg

This is the first year in which my statement to shareholders has been made available before our Ordinary General Meeting and we have accelerated the production of our Report and Accounts to make this possible.

The Group profit for the year was HK\$1,014 million and that of the Bank itself HK\$869.5 million. This represents increases of 39% and 47% respectively over the profits for 1978. Dividends received from Group members are included and as usual outside interests have been deducted in the case of Group profits. The profits of the Bank are stated after provisions considered prudent and sensible by your Board.

We have again increased the transfer to published reserves to a figure of HK\$1,500 million, and are recommending to the Ordinary General Meeting a final dividend of HK\$0.50. After taking into account the interim dividend of 24 cents and the increase in capital following on last year's bonus issue of one new share for every two held, the total distribution to shareholders will show an increase of about 39% compared to last year.

Although it has remained our policy over many years not to rely on bought in money the balance sheet figures have nevertheless again increased considerably and in order to keep our capital in line with these increases we are recommending to you a bonus issue of three shares for every five held. As announced there will be an Extraordinary General Meeting after the Ordinary General Meeting to approve this. If approved \$1,039,372,825 will be capitalised from the Reserve Fund and the Reserve Fund restored by transfers of HK\$830,000,000 and HK\$209,372,825 from the Bank's inner reserves and retained profits respectively. This will still leave carried forward profits in the Bank's accounts of HK\$100 million. We shall require the authorised capital to be increased to HK\$4,000 million and your approval for this will also be sought. Your Directors are quite confident that total distribution for 1980 will not be less than that for 1979, meaning dividends of not less than 47 cents per share on the increased capital as proposed.

1979 has proved a record year for your Group and has produced a rather better increase in profits than anticipated, but if one remembers that perhaps around half of the increase is needed just to keep up with inflation around the world, it puts the figures in a truer perspective.

I mentioned to you last year the tendency of economic pundits to be too gloomy and indeed the much heralded recession in the Free World has not come about. However the failure, effectively, to reduce inflation coupled with the energy price rises in the last year, are not making those same economic forecasters any more cheerful. While a recession may come, and indeed may be the drastic remedy required to curb inflation, I find it difficult to see a recession of any scale in the United States during a Presidential Election year. Meanwhile economic activity in Japan and Western Europe has shown a remarkable capacity to sustain fundamental growth despite the problems faced.

It is to be hoped that a pragmatic approach to the solution of major economic problems can be sustained during the 1980s. We can take some encouragement from the example of the normalisation of Sino-American relationships which seems to have opened the bridge between the needs of an immense market and the capacity of Western technology to supply that market, in an orderly process characterised by realism on both sides.

It is comparatively easy to comment on the interlocked political and economic hazards which beset the world, but somewhat more difficult to convey an awareness that many areas are still making important progress despite the hazards. The ASEAN countries, for example, in which the Group has a major operating presence, appear to be maintaining their average annual growth rate of 7-8%. Indeed if one considers the Asia-Pacific region in general it is possible to feel hopeful that its development will be the outstanding economic trend in the last two decades of this century. This progress will of course depend upon the ability of the developed and less-developed nations to create a more balanced economic system and overcome the pressing problems of global inflation and energy shortages. The daunting scale and complexity of this task is such that realism dictates a cautious outlook for the beginning of the 1980s.

The optimism generated by the prospect of increased development in the People's Republic of China has had an effect upon the economy of Hong Kong and therefore upon the affairs of your Group.

It is good to report generally full order books for Hong Kong industrialists at least for the first half of the current year.

1979 saw the opening of the first stations on the Mass Transit Railway system in Hong Kong, a major feat of civil engineering for which the Group organised over a third of the finance through Wardley Limited. The Mass Transit Railway will undoubtedly play a major role in easing Hong Kong's traffic problems, and its completion reflects the readiness of the community to tackle infrastructure projects with determination.

Two particularly important events for your Bank have taken place since our last meeting. First the completion of the first phase of our investment in Marine Midland Bank, and secondly the definite decision to go ahead with the redevelopment of our Headquarters at 1 Queen's Road.

Marine Midland's successful application to convert into a National Bank cleared the way for our tender offer to their shareholders to purchase 25% of the outstanding stock. This received a very favourable response and was well oversubscribed. It led to our taking up the first tranche of new capital in Marine Midland on 4 March 1980 when we became 41% stockholders in that institution. Under our agreement the second tranche of new stock will be taken up by

profit generated from the sale was treated as an extraordinary profit and transferred direct to the Bank's inner reserves. As such of course it is not included in the profit figures mentioned earlier.

Hang Seng Bank had another record year both as to profits and dividend distribution. They continue to thrive under the guidance of Mr S H Ho as Chairman and Mr Q W Lee as Chief Executive.

Internationally our operations were very encouraging particularly so in the Far East and this is shown by the larger increase in profits shown by the Bank itself over that of the Group.

The British Bank of the Middle East showed a small increase in profits.

Shareholders will, I am sure, have read of the transfer of the Head Office of The British Bank of the Middle East from London to Hong Kong at the beginning of this year. This will allow closer and speedier liaison within the Group without in any way reducing the service we offer our constituents in the Middle East. This has meant a new Board of Directors in Hong Kong for The British Bank of the Middle East but I would like to pay tribute to the resigning directors, many of whom have given very long service and all of

sidary of Wardley Limited - taking over the Group's business there. The start has been most promising. Wardley itself reported continued growth and record profits. Their dividend was increased from HK\$30 million to HK\$47.5 million. Wardley's development is particularly important enabling the Group as it does to take advantage of the increasing trend toward transnational financial arrangements.

Wardley Middle East Limited continued to make progress during a difficult year dominated by political uncertainty in its area. Our finance companies in Brunei, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore all produced good results and expanded their operations. The growth of our insurance ventures during the year was also very satisfying and we are confident that they will not only be making a significant contribution in future years but are a valuable addition to the range of our services.

Wayhong Investment which holds our transport portfolio had another good year with increased returns coming from the World-Wide Group of companies and from Cathay Pacific Airways.

At the end of last year we announced we were holding talks with Antony Gibbs which might lead to our purchasing the 60% in their company which we do not already own. Negotiations with Antony Gibbs continue and I hope to be able to say something more on this subject at the Ordinary General Meeting.

We are providing shareholders with a review of Operations as part of this year's Annual Report, and we believe that this will give some idea of the very wide range of services we now provide, both geographically and operationally. My full International Survey, which hitherto has accompanied the Annual Report, will be available on request shortly after the Ordinary General Meeting.

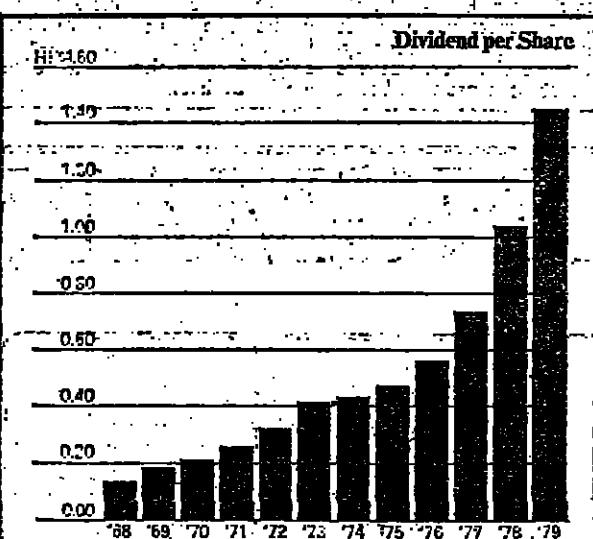
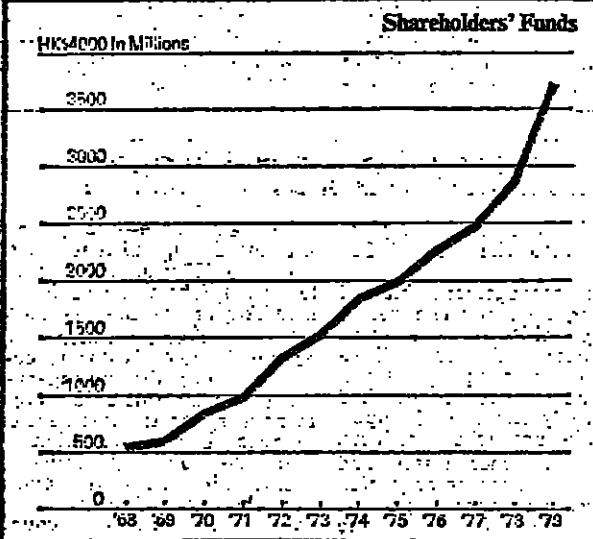
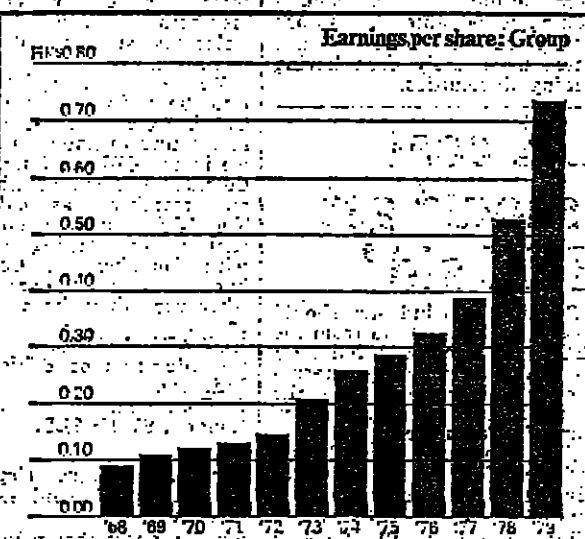
There has been a number of changes in your Board. In accordance with the agreement with Marine Midland, we have invited three members of their Board to join us. They are Messrs E W Duffy, Chairman, J R Petty, President, and R W Hubner, a Director and former IBM Senior Officer. Messrs Li Ka-shing and J F Holmes have also joined us; as have two additional Executive Directors, Messrs P E Hammond and I H Macdonald. To them all we extend a warm welcome, confident that their experience in different fields will contribute significantly to our counsels.

Mr P G Williams, upon relinquishing his executive role in Inchcape, is stepping down as Deputy Chairman after the Ordinary General Meeting but I am glad to say he has agreed to stay on the Board. His place as Deputy Chairman will be taken by Sir Y K Pao.

Mr G R Ross who has been on your Board for twelve years retires after this meeting under Regulation 89(h). I would like to put on record the great debt I and my predecessors owe Mr Ross for his dedication to the Bank's business.

As always, it is my pleasure and duty to remind shareholders of the debt we owe to a hard working staff who now number some 25,000 around the globe. This statement of mine has, perforce, been written some little time before the Ordinary General Meeting, when I will, if necessary, bring shareholders up-to-date with the affairs of the Bank. However, I hope that the Annual Report does at least present shareholders with a portrait of a vibrant organisation poised to take advantage of opportunities as they arise during this new decade.

1979 HIGHLIGHTS			
	1978	1979	1979
	HK\$ millions		\$ millions
Issued Share Capital	1,135	1,732	158
Reserve Fund	1,427	1,636	149
Retained Profits	295	341	31
Deposits	74,654	97,374	8,885
Advances	37,107	42,652	3,892
Bank Premises	1,241	1,541	141
Net Profit	723	1,014	93
Total Assets	98,464	125,292	11,431



us by the end of this year. At that time our investment will be 51% at a cost of US\$314 million.

Naturally we are delighted at the successful outcome of what have been protracted negotiations over a two-year period but which served to confirm our confidence in the benefits which will accrue to both banks. We look forward to cooperating actively with Marine Midland in extending the range and scope of our services. The combined assets of both our organisations total more than US\$40 billion, and this joint strength places us effectively among the major international banks in the world.

The Board has decided in favour of a complete redevelopment of our Queen's Road Headquarters. As we said at the time this is evidence, if evidence were needed, of our long-term commitment to Hong Kong. We are determined that the redevelopment will produce a building of which the Bank and Hong Kong as a whole can be proud and with the appointment of Foster Associates of London as our architects we are confident this will be achieved.

Elsewhere in Hong Kong we continued to expand the number of branches to provide easy access to customers in developing new towns and the older urban areas. This will continue when and where necessary although as we now have some 230 branches in Hong Kong we expect the opening of new offices to slow down somewhat.

During the year the Bank disposed of its ordinary shares in Hutchison Whampoa. This was in line with our promise when we took up our investment in 1975 - at that time in Hutchison International - to sell when conditions permitted and in an orderly manner. The

whom have taken a very close interest in the affairs of that Bank during a time when there has been a generally unsettled and sometimes turbulent atmosphere in the area in which it operates. I am glad to say that their counsel will not be lost as, with the exception of Mr Macqueen, they will be forming an advisory committee in London. Mr Macqueen who was in turn Chief Executive and later Chairman completed 50 years service with The British Bank of the Middle East before his retirement from their Board at the end of the year.

The Bank of Iran and the Middle East in which the Group had a 35% interest was nationalised during 1979 and we still await compensation. The Saudi British Bank, in which the Group holds 40%, has established itself very successfully under the able chairmanship of Sheikh Suliman Saleh Olayan.

Mercantile Bank Limited showed some progress although profits were down on 1978. The economic problems of India, exacerbated by political uncertainty, made trading conditions difficult and it is to be hoped that the incoming government will move swiftly to restore some measure of business and investment confidence. Similarly in Mauritius results were adversely affected by prolonged industrial and labour strife. The results achieved by Mercantile nevertheless reflect favourably on the staff involved. Our Canadian operations continued to expand although the continuing delay in the grant of charters to foreign banks has had an inhibiting effect on our plans to move to a full banking operation.

In Australia we restructured our operations by Wardley Australia Limited - a wholly owned sub-

The Hongkong Bank Group

Principal subsidiaries and associate members of The Hongkong Bank Group:-

The British Bank of the Middle East

The Mercantile Bank Limited

Wardley Limited

Hang Seng Bank Limited

The Saudi British Bank

The British Bank of the Lebanon, S A L

Antony Gibbs Holdings Limited

Wardley Middle East Limited

Services offered by the principal subsidiary and associate companies of The Hongkong Bank Group:-

BANKING • MERCHANT BANKING SERVICES • FINANCE AND INVESTMENT • INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

EXPORT CREDIT • INSURANCE SERVICES • BULLION DEALING • COMPANY DATA INFORMATION

TRAVELLERS CHEQUES • CREDIT CARDS • TRUSTEE SERVICES • NOMINEE SERVICES

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Gilts profit taking sends equities reeling

The profit-takers moved into gilts yesterday and sent the rest of the market, which had been using government securities as a prop, reeling.

Prices throughout the list were generally easier following Monday's impressive performance, which had seen the exchange of the "top" Exchange 3 per cent 1984 along with some big gains all round. But the buyers decided, yesterday, not to chance their luck and took their profits while they could.

Jobbers said that the indication they had forecast had now arrived, accompanied by further fears of a worldwide recession. In the event, losses drifted steadily throughout the day and closed £1 point off. Earlier losses in shorts of around £1 were reduced to £1/16, by a rally in late trading which followed the statement on interest rates by the chairman of National Westminster Bank in his annual report.

So equities were left to their own devices which produced a rather dull session with more falls than rises. Dealers blamed Monday's sale of shares owned by Citicorp and International Investment Trust, valued at around £20m, which soaked up all the "raw" cash available. The only light relief came with the long list of companies reporting "greatly improved" profits and share dividends.

Nevertheless, it was not enough, and the FT Index closed at the bottom 6.8 off at 3453.

A strong performance on the resumption of trading on Wall St was the only bright spot, which, if maintained, jobbers were hoping might rub off in the market today.

Leaders had another unspiced session, with prices lower on small bouts of sporadic selling. Dunlop was a bright spot on further Far Eastern buying, which saw around 750,000 shares change hands. The shares, however, closed 1p

Lloyd's broker Brentnall Beard has been losing business hand over fist since it became involved in the Sasse syndicate scandal. But the shares, which plunged 7p, moved up to 10p last week. Talk is that a bigger rival could be interested in picking up the group's network and taking a gamble on the outcome of litigation.

In timbers Montague L. Meyer dipped 3p to 104p as Mallinson Denny fell 3p to 72p after some heavy selling by speculators, who are now of the

opinion that any chance of a bid has now passed. Speculation that Carl Fischer Inc. of New York, was about to bid for the outstanding shares it did not own boosted Boosey & Hawkes, 10p to 12p. But Sir Richard Young, chairman of Boosey, said he had been in touch with Fischer, who said they were "neither bidding nor buying" the company.

Press comment: lifted expanded Metal 4p to 56p, profit-taking clipped 6p from A. Henriques at 45p, also the subject of recent favourable comment.

The market took great heart from the full-year figures of S. Pearson, 10p higher at 204p, while Pearson Longman rose 6p

to 192p. Bumper figures and a scrip issue were good for a 20p leap in Travis & Arnold at 272p, and a 15p rise in Wilson (Connolly) at 205p. Satisfactory

The recent strength of property shares could speed the way for a rare event—a new property company coming to market. The Arrowcroft Group, formed in 1969 by current chairman Mr Leonard Eppel, says it wants a public flotation but is not quite sure of the timing.

Trading profits also helped Tozer Kemsley, 3p to 79p, United Carriers, 2p to 136p, and Spencer Gears, 1p to 24p. But the opposite was true of Bodycote Int, 3p lower at 77p. Farnell Electronics, 2p off at 305p, Charles Hill of Bristol, 5p down at 50p, Oxley Printing, 4p easier at 35p, Silentnight, 3p to 40p and Steel Bros, 4p to 125p. A profits shortfall at Wadkin saw the shares retreat 4p to 76p.

Tarmac, with figures due out soon, slipped 3p to 232p. Speculative activity continued to surround House of Fraser in stores, where the price climbed 4p to 136p. Lounsbrough, strongly tipped as the prospective suitor, fell 3p to 87p, but the market continues to adopt the attitude of no smoke without fire.

Equity turnover on April 21 was £108,503m (12,258 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were, Lascos, Premier Cons, Shell, Tricentral, P & O, Ultramar, Consolidated Gold Fields, ICI, ICL, House of Fraser, Royal Insurance, Bass, Harrington, Burmah, BP and Blue Circle Industries.

Latest results

Company lat or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div	Pay date	Year's total
Bodycote Int (F)	35.38 (29.87)	2.14 (2.06)	2.01 (1.45)	1/7	1/7	4.01 (3.01)
Boosey & Hawkes (F)	86.3 (81.1)	5.78 (5.47)	5.31 (5.11)	1/7	1/7	2.20 (2.20)
Chatterfield Prop (F)	4.6 (4.1)	2.5 (2.3)	3.0 (3.0)	1/7	1/7	5.04 (5.04)
Dunlop & Mills (F)	7.9 (6.5)	0.99 (1.0)	0.7 (0.5)	4/6	4/6	—
Estate Duties Inv (F)	25.2 (22.2)	2.9 (2.5)	2.4 (2.1)	1/7	1/7	4.0 (2.9)
Farnell Elec (F)	12.7 (15.0)	0.18 (0.74)*	1.3 (1.2)	12/6	12/6	3.0 (1.47)
J. B. Holdings (F)	30.5 (25.4)	1.7 (1.8)	1.5 (1.42)	19/6	19/6	1.5 (0.75)
Maples (F)	28.0 (23.4)	1.4 (1.0)	1.0 (0.7)	2/6	2/6	—
Metals (F)	11.0 (8.9)	0.36 (0.25)	0.2 (0.1)	10/6	10/6	—
NW Computers (F)	1.7 (1.6)	0.60 (0.35)	1.7 (1.22.5)	0.0 (Nil)	1/6	—
ML F. North (F)	3.9 (1.42)	0.67 (0.74)	2.0 (1.81)	2/6	2/6	0.81 (0.35)
Oxley Printing (F)	484.0 (401.0)	0.2 (23.5)	1.6 (1)	4/7	4/7	10.0 (7.99)
S. Pearson (F)	484.0 (423.0)	38.7 (39.2)	38.7 (35.9)	6.25 (4.99)	2/6	10.0 (7.99)
Pearson Longman (F)	300.0 (176.0)	25.5 (25.5)	36.3 (30.06)	6.4 (3.68)	2/6	8.33 (6.58)
Silentnight (F)	64.4 (50.9)	3.4 (2.6)	17.9 (13.5)	3.0 (2.4)	3/7	8.0 (7.15)
Rediffusion (F)	100.78 (96.8)	2.1 (1.2)	—	Nil (15.0)	3/7	8.0 (7.15)
Steel Bros (F)	100.78 (96.8)	5.8 (6.47)	23.7 (28.4)	4.8 (4.47)	3/7	8.0 (7.15)
Spencer Gears (F)	2.9 (2.0)	0.18 (0.12)	0.1 (0.1)	0.28 (1.17)	12/6	4.7 (3.24)
Tozer Kemsley (F)	1.107 (900.0)	16.0 (7.6)	18.1 (11.9)	18.1 (12.54)	12/6	4.7 (3.24)
Travis & Arnold (F)	96.8 (73.4)	7.0 (4.61)	84.7 (36.5)	6.0 (3.4)	—	7.16 (3.36)
United Carriers (F)	27.3 (21.6)	3.86 (2.85)	20.5 (16.2)	3.5 (1.9)	—	5.02 (3.93)
Wilson (Comptel) (F)	28.5 (25.5)	5.4 (3.5)	5.4 (3.5)	25.5 (19.3)	30/5	2.1 (1.4)
Websters Group (F)	25.5 (20.6)	0.7 (0.5)	6.9 (5.8)	1.4 (1)	23/5	2.1 (1.4)
Wadkin (F)	25.2 (23.65)	0.37 (2.35)	3.77 (3.48)	4.22 (4.22)	30/5	6.47 (6.47)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Earnings in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. 30/5 means 30 pence per share pre-tax and earnings are net. * = loss.

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. **=loss.

Unitech plans £3m rights issue

Unitech is raising £3m with a rights issue less than nine months after it topped shareholders for £4.7m last August. The group is also forecasting profits of £4.8m before tax for the year to May 31, compared with £3.5m.

The new shares are being offered at a deep discount of about two-fifths to the market price to avoid underwriting costs. The terms are one new 10p share at 180p for every 10p share at 180p for every 10p.

Unitech wants extra cash to finance increased working capital needs. Since the last rights issue the group's electronic component marketing operations have grown faster than envisaged at the time. Unitech has also just completed the £3.4m cash acquisition of the German distributor Alfred Kette Enatech. This means that sales are now running at an annual rate of £85m, compared with £46m in 1978-79, and demand is still strong.

Group borrowings have also risen to over half of shareholders' funds, which is higher than Unitech would like. The shares have performed strongly since the last one-for-four rights issue, when new shares were offered at 145p against a market price of 183p.

In the meantime they have risen by over two-thirds. Yesterday the shares eased 6p to 272p on the announcement. The ex-rights yield is 3.0 per cent.

Brown Boveri profits fall 22pc to £5.8m

By Rosemary Unsworth
Swiss-controlled instruments group Brown Boveri Kent disclosed that its fears over profits at the interim stage were well-founded as earnings for 1979 dipped by 22 per cent to £5.8m at the pre-tax level.

Mr John Lutyens, the chairman, said that the turnover in 1979 was £11.2m, compared with £13.5m in 1978-79, a decrease of less than 2 per cent.

The main culprit was the continuing recession in the industries the group serves and exchange translation losses, which rose from £245,000 in 1978 to £1.12m last year. Despite these factors, United Kingdom exports rose by 17 per cent and provided more than 50 per cent of turnover of the United Kingdom-based company for the first time. This was in spite of the indirect difficulties caused by last year's transport and engineering strikes.

The group suffered from a 22 per cent fall in its three trading divisions. The profit control operation was affected by a reduction in investment by the industries supplies.

Interest charges rose from £1.1m to £1.5m from a combination of higher borrowing and higher rates. The group's investment programme, which cost £5.6m in 1978, is expected to provide a rate of capital investment of 10 per cent, which will now be slowed down.

The final dividend has been maintained at 1.7p gross, which was the interim of 1.4p, making a total of 3.4p.

Travis & Arnold up 54pc in record year

By Our Financial Staff
Repair, maintenance and home improvements dramatically lifted margins for builders' merchant and timber importer Travis & Arnold last year, producing record profits up 54 per cent to £7.2m.

A significant profits contribution was made by Ellis and Everard, which the group bought in August 1978. No figure is given for this subsidiary's earnings but it contributed £2.5m to the overall sales figure, which was 31 per cent ahead at £96.8m. Shareholders are to get a 60 per cent lift in the total dividend from 6.36p to 10.23p, with a 7.8p interim and a one-for-one scrip issue.

At the half-way stage in June, the directors said that trading was "profitably below budget" for the first two months of the year.

But a lift in overall value improved margins and in a second half profits topped those earned for the whole last year. Trebled interest payments of £15,000 were paid off by profits from property sales, up from £26,000 in 1978. And despite a high rate of charge, post-tax profits were virtually doubled.

The group says that trading and profits during the first half of this year are "considerably ahead of the depressed levels" of the last year.

Thomas Tilling optimistic

Despite the deteriorating economic prospects in its two main areas of operation, the United States and the United Kingdom, Thomas Tilling has made a good start to the year, according to Sir Robert Tilling, the chairman in the annual report. Although some areas of the business, engineering and vehicle distribution, are patchy, the group's diversity should hold it in good stead and another rise in profits is expected in the current year.

Following a four-year £13m spending programme in the United States, Tilling's overseas

acquisitions have now peaked and the balance of the year with some 60 per cent of assets in the United Kingdom and almost 25 per cent in the United States is a "very healthy" one. Tilling expects to see a fall in its already comfortable gearing level of 28 per cent in 1980. Pre-tax profits drop from £102.5m to £71m on a current basis, although the dividend is still more than twice covered.

Rediffusion omits interim

Rediffusion Television's pre-tax profits rose from £1.26m to £2.17m in the six months to January 29, but the group's share losses from its associate, Thames Television, were £1.77m compared with profits of £1.84m last time. This was because of last year's television strike.

Rediffusion has now changed its year-end to March 31, to fall in line with Thames, in which it has just over 50 per cent control, and EMI, which has the balance of the Thames share. Thames, although it made a profit in the first three months

of 1980, will make a small loss over the full year. As a result Rediffusion has passed the interim dividend. Last year it paid 21.4p gross.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Monthly figures for Great Britain, excluding school leavers:

Year	Total	Seasonally adjusted	% of total	% of total
1979	1,280	1,266	5.4	242
April	1,238	1,247	5.3	235
May	1,281	1,224	5.2	237
June	1,392	1,217	5.1	252
July	1,384	1,203	5.1	247
Aug	1,325	1,202	5.1	245
Sept	1,303	1,218	5.2	237
Oct	1,299	1,222	5.2	238
Nov	1,282	1,237	5.2	221
Dec	1,282	1,237	5.2	221

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

Seasonally adjusted, (excluding school leavers):

Region	Number	% of total	% of total
South east	229,400	+6,000	3.9
South west	92,900	+2,300	2.5
West Midlands	138,400	+4,600	3.0
East Midlands	82,000	+2,400	2.9
Yorkshire and Humber	130,000	+3,800	3.0
North west	217,000	+4,800	2.6
North	126,000	+4,800	3.8
Wales	95,000	+2,200	2.4
Scotland	181,500	+6,700	3.4
GB	1,383,000	+40,000	3.0
NIreland	1,458,100	+44,000	3.0

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Credits	17%
C. H. Hambro & Co	17%
Lloyds Bank	17%
London Mercantile	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Nat Westminister	17%
Rossminster	17%
TSB	17%
Williams and Glyn's	17%

* 7 day deposit on sum of £10,000 and annual dividend of £25,000 15% over £25,000 20%

UNILEVER N.V. CERTIFICATES FOR ORDINARY SHARES OF 100 DOLLARS

ADMINISTRATOR: N.V. NEDERLANDSCHE TRUSTMAATSCHAPPIJ

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the UNILEVER N.V. CERTIFICATES FOR ORDINARY SHARES OF 100 DOLLARS, which were issued by the company on 1st May 1979, are to be redeemed on 31st May 1980.

Certificates will only be accepted for redemption after 22nd May 1980, provided that the certificates have been deposited prior to that date with the company.

N.V. NEDERLANDSCHE TRUSTMAATSCHAPPIJ, ADMINISTRATOR, is a company incorporated in the Netherlands.

London Transfer Office, 100, Broad Street, London, W1C 1JH, is the agent for the redemption of the certificates.

21st April 1980

Thomas Tilling

1979-Profit before tax up by 25% to a record £81 million

RESULTS	1979	1978	Increase
£ million	£ million	%	
Sales	1416	1026	38
Profit before Interest	104	75	39
Profit before Tax	81	65	25

PER ORDINARY SHARE	1979	1978	Increase
£m	£m	%	
Earnings	29.4p	24.6p	20
Dividend	7p	4.818p	45
Net Assets	146p	120p	22

NEW INVESTMENTS	1979	1978	Increase
£m	£m	%	
Fixed Assets	66	43	53
Acquisitions	76	32	137

Principal Companies



Builders' Merchants
Graham Building Services



Engineering
Cimex
Clarkson
DCE Vokes
Gascoigne
Hansen
Hobourn
Ramteck



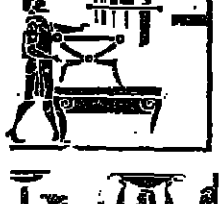
Industrial Equipment
Distribution
Newey & Eyre
NW Supply



Insurance
Cornhill



Construction Materials
and Services
Clecon
Palmer
Selwood
Tilcon



Furniture
Rest Assured



Tiles and Pottery
Pilkington's



Medical Supplies
InterMed



Publishing
Heinemann



Textiles
Pretty Polly



Vehicle Distribution
Stratstone

City Offices
Hampton & Sons

01-236 7831

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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RENTALS

RENTALS

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